283—21.15(261B,261G) Approval criteria for a school seeking to participate or renew participation in a commission-approved interstate reciprocity agreement under Iowa Code chapter 261G. A school that applies to participate in a commission-approved interstate reciprocity agreement shall meet the following criteria:

21.15(1) The applicant school shall be in compliance with Iowa Code chapter 261B as provided in this chapter.

21.15(2) The applicant school shall submit an institutional participation application as required by the commission-approved interstate reciprocity agreement. The application shall be signed by the school's chief executive officer or chief academic officer.

21.15(3) A nonpublic applicant school must submit evidence that its most recent, official financial responsibility composite score, as calculated using the method prescribed by the United States Department of Education, is at least 1.5. A school demonstrates that its financial responsibility composite score is official by providing written confirmation of its composite score from the United States Department of Education. In accordance with policies established by the interstate reciprocity agreement administrator, the commission shall determine the official financial responsibility composite score for a school that does not participate in the postsecondary student financial aid programs authorized by the United States Department of Education.

21.15(4) The commission will consider the application of a nonpublic school whose most recent, official financial responsibility composite score is between 1.0 and 1.49. The applicant school must submit a copy of the school's most recently audited financial statements accompanied by a written explanation of the circumstances that caused the school's composite score to be below 1.5 and the school's plan to raise its composite score to 1.5 within a time frame determined by the commission. The commission may approve, provisionally approve, or deny the school's application.

21.15(5) A for-profit applicant school must demonstrate and maintain compliance with Iowa Code sections 714.18 and 714.23. The school shall apply the policy it adopts under Iowa Code section 714.23 to students who attend its campus(es) in Iowa and to Iowa resident and nonresident students who attend distance education programs the school offers under the commission-approved interstate reciprocity agreement.

21.15(6) The applicant school shall demonstrate that the military deployment tuition and fee refund policy required under Iowa Code sections 261.9(1)*"g,"* 262.9(30), and 260C.14(20), subrule 21.3(5) and paragraph 21.14(1)*"f"* applies to students who attend its campus(es) in Iowa and to Iowa resident and nonresident students who attend distance education programs the school offers under the commission-approved interstate reciprocity agreement.

21.15(7) An approved school will prominently disclose on its website the school's participation in the commission-approved interstate reciprocity agreement and provide the commission's contact information in a format prescribed by the commission for students who wish to inquire about the school or file a complaint. The school will provide the commission with the name of and business contact information for a person whom the school designates to receive student complaints from the commission and coordinate the school's response.

21.15(8) A school that is approved to participate in the commission-approved interstate reciprocity agreement shall remit an annual fee payable and due to the commission on July 15 of each year. The school shall pay the annual fee to the commission if the commission's approval to participate in the interstate reciprocity agreement is valid as of July 15 of that year. The annual fee is nonrefundable and will be assessed based on a school's full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment as follows:

- Under 2,500 FTE – $2,000.
- 2,500 to 9,999 FTE – $4,000.
- 10,000 FTE or more – $6,000.

21.15(9) A school that is approved to participate in the commission-approved interstate reciprocity agreement shall remit to the interstate reciprocity agreement administrator any required fees.

21.15(10) Upon approval by the interstate reciprocity agreement administrator, a school may continue its participation in the reciprocity agreement as long as it meets all requirements of the interstate reciprocity agreement.

[**ARC 2580C**, IAB 6/22/16, effective 5/27/16; **ARC 3678C**, IAB 3/14/18, effective 4/18/18]