

441—175.41(235A) Access to child abuse information. Requests for child abuse information shall include sufficient information to demonstrate that the requesting party has authorized access to the information.

175.41(1) *Written requests.* Requests for child abuse information shall be submitted on a Request for Child Abuse Information form to the county office of the department, except requests made for the purpose of determining employability of a person in a department-operated facility shall be submitted to the central abuse registry. Subjects of a report may submit a request for child abuse information to the county office of the department on a request for child abuse information form, a notice of child abuse assessment: founded form, a notice of child abuse assessment: confirmed not registered form, a notice of child abuse assessment: not confirmed form, or a family assessment report form. The county office is granted permission to release child abuse information to the subject of a report immediately upon verification of the identity and subject status.

175.41(2) *Oral requests.* Oral requests for child abuse information may be made when a person making the request believes that the information is needed immediately and if the person is authorized to access the information. When an oral request to obtain child abuse information is granted, the person approving the request shall document the approval to the central abuse registry through use of a request for child abuse information form or a notice of child abuse assessment: founded form.

Upon approval of any request for child abuse information authorized by this rule, the department shall withhold the name of the person who made the report of child abuse unless ordered by a juvenile court or district court after a finding that the person's name is needed to resolve an issue in any phase of a case involving child abuse. Written requests and oral requests do not apply to child abuse information that is disseminated to an employee of the department, to a juvenile court, or to the attorney representing the department as authorized by Iowa Code section 235A.15.

175.41(3) *Written authorizations.* Requests for information from members of the general public as to whether a person is named on the central abuse registry as having abused a child shall be submitted on an Authorization for release of child abuse information form to the county office of the department or the central abuse registry. The form shall be completed and signed by the person requesting the information and the person authorizing the check for the release of child abuse information. The department shall not provide requested information when the authorization form is incomplete. Incomplete authorization forms shall be returned to the requester.

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