

761—710.5(328) State airport improvement funds.

710.5(1) Applicant eligibility. A governmental subdivision owning or establishing a public airport is eligible to apply to the department for state airport improvement funds.

710.5(2) Project eligibility and funding.

a. An airport improvement project must benefit and be accessible to the public.

b. Airport projects may include, but are not limited to: runway, taxiway, and apron surfaces; lighting and navigational aids; obstruction removal; grading, drainage, and surfacing airfield surfaces and protection areas; signage, security access control and lighting; planning; and other airport enhancements. A project that involves airfield infrastructure shall comply with the airport master plan or airport layout plan as adopted by the governmental subdivision.

c. The department establishes the maximum percentage of state share of eligible projects. The department may annually set a maximum dollar amount per award. Funding criteria are included in application instructions provided to airport sponsors.

710.5(3) Application for funding.

a. The department shall make available the application instructions and forms to each publicly owned airport in Iowa. A complete application will include all materials identified in the annual application instructions.

b. Project applications shall be submitted to the department by the due date specified in the instructions.

c. Immediate safety enhancement project applications may be submitted at any time during the year to the department according to instructions that are part of the application form.

d. The department shall make available applications for special projects to all eligible airports. Airport sponsors shall submit applications for special projects to the department as specified in the application instructions.

710.5(4) Review and approval. The department shall review each completed application and evaluate the impact of the project on the aviation system considering the following factors: state system plan airport roles, goals and objectives; justification provided in the application; ability to enhance aeronautical activity for the airport and system; local participation; and multijurisdictional support of the airport. The department shall recommend projects to the transportation commission for approval. The commission is responsible for approving the projects to be funded.

710.5(5) Project administration.

a. After a project has been approved by the commission, the department shall enter into an agreement with the airport sponsor that specifies the responsibilities of the sponsor.

b. The agreement shall specify the amount of state funds, the contract period, and the responsibilities for project planning, development, and the payment process.

c. The department may inspect the improvement for compliance with the agreement and may audit all project costs incurred.

710.5(6) Contract payments.

a. Payments to the airport sponsor for eligible project costs shall be made on a cost reimbursement basis.

b. Engineering fees are an eligible project expense and shall be reimbursed in compliance with the agreement.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 328.

[ARC 1351C, IAB 3/5/14, effective 4/9/14]