

**871—23.56(96) Informal settlement.**

**23.56(1)** Pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 17A, a controversy may, unless precluded by statute, at the discretion of the department be informally settled by mutual agreement of the department and the person or employer who is or is about to be engaged in the controversy. The settlement is effected by a written statement reciting the subject of the controversy and the proposed solution mutually agreed upon including a statement of the action to be taken, or to be refrained from, by each of the parties. The informal settlement constitutes a waiver, by all parties, of the formalities to which they are entitled under the terms of Iowa Code chapter 17A, with respect to the specific fact situation comprising the controversy.

Either party may initiate a proposal for informal settlement of the controversy by communicating a proposal to the other party before the contested hearing is convened.

**23.56(2)** If the parties agree to a settlement, the written statement is presented to the administrator of the division of unemployment insurance services for review and approval.

**23.56(3)** In the event a settlement is reached in a case that has been appealed to the courts, the formal settlement will be presented to the appropriate district court. If an assessment of contributions or a decision upon which an assessment is based has become final without appeal, the actual established contribution may be compromised by agreement of the parties and submission to the district court pursuant to Iowa Code section 96.14(5). Doubtful collectibility as contained in Iowa Code section 96.14(5) includes tax debts that are doubtful as to validity or as to collectibility. The department is not required to enter into any informal settlement or compromise with regard to any employer liability determination and may do so at its own discretion.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 96.6(3) and 96.14(7).

[ARC 8848C, IAB 1/22/25, effective 2/26/25]