

**761—700.5(328) State airport improvement program.****700.5(1) Applicant eligibility.**

*a.* A governmental subdivision owning or establishing a public airport is eligible to apply to the department for state airport improvement funds.

*b.* Participation in air service development projects is limited to airports currently receiving scheduled airline or commuter air service options and are designated as commercial service airports in the Iowa aviation system plan. An airport that loses air service completely may remain eligible for participation in the two following and consecutive annual application cycles if 100 percent of the grant amounts are used according to conditions of the air service grant and solely toward efforts to reestablish air service for that affected airport.

**700.5(2) Eligible project activities.**

*a.* Statewide projects administered by the department include but are not limited to planning studies, aviation weather systems, airport markings, immediate safety enhancements, wildlife mitigations, windsocks, education, and outreach.

*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 is to comply with the airport master plan or airport layout plan as adopted by the governmental subdivision.

*c.* Air service development activities eligible for reimbursement include but are not limited to marketing, entry support, data collection, and items defined on the annual application.

**700.5(3) Funding.** The department establishes the maximum percentage of state share for eligible projects and may annually set a maximum dollar amount per award. Funding criteria are included in application instructions provided to airport sponsors.

**700.5(4) Application for funding.**

*a.* The department will make available the application instructions and forms to each public airport in Iowa. Applications are to be submitted to the department by the due date specified in the instructions.

*b.* 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.

**700.5(5) Review and approval.** The department will 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; ability to enhance aeronautical activity for the airport and system; local participation; and multijurisdictional support of the airport. The department will recommend projects to the commission for approval.

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