

**871—26.2(17A,96) Definitions.** Terms defined in the Iowa employment security law and the Iowa administrative procedure Act and that are used in these rules shall have the same meaning as provided by such laws. In addition, the following words and terms when used in this chapter shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

“*Contested case*” means a proceeding defined in Iowa Code section 17A.2(5) and includes any matter defined as a no factual dispute contested case in Iowa Code section 17A.10A. It specifically includes any appeal from a determination of a representative of the department or any appeal or request for a hearing by an employer or employing unit from an experience rating, charge determination or other decision affecting its liability. Except as provided in subrule 26.16(4), a final decision of the employment appeal board of the department of inspections, appeals, and licensing shall constitute final agency action. A presiding officer’s decision shall be the final decision of the department if there is no appeal therefrom to the employment appeal board of the department of inspections, appeals, and licensing or if the appeal is made directly to the district court in lieu of filing an appeal with the employment appeal board of the department of inspections, appeals, and licensing.

“*Presiding officer*” means an administrative law judge employed by the department of inspections, appeals, and licensing.

[ARC 0120D, IAB 3/4/26, effective 4/8/26]