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281—37.1(280) General. It is the policy of the state of Iowa that each school desiring to be a member of a conference providing extracurricular athletic contests and competitions for students is granted this opportunity. For purposes of this chapter, "member school" means a school or school district granted such status by any corporation, association, or organization registered with the state department of education pursuant to Iowa Code section 280.13 and includes associate members.

- **37.1(1)** *Criteria*. To the maximum extent appropriate, membership shall be with other schools of comparable size and within reasonable geographic proximity.
- 37.1(2) *Initial responsibility*. The initial authority and responsibility for conference development, membership, and alignment rests with the board of directors of each public school district and the authorities in charge of each nonpublic school.

[ARC 7658C, IAB 3/6/24, effective 4/10/24]