

761—163.2(315) Administration of RISE program.**163.2(1) Purpose.**

a. The purpose of the RISE program is to promote economic development in Iowa through the establishment, construction, improvement, and maintenance of roads and streets. The RISE program is targeted toward value-adding activities to provide maximum economic impact to the state. Value-adding activities feed new dollars into the economy. As these dollars are circulated, the state experiences economic growth. Tourism activities that result in the attraction of out-of-state dollars to the state economy may also be targeted by the program. Residential development, local government facilities, local public schools, locally oriented business services and personal services are generally not value-adding activities and will rarely meet the intent of the program.

b. The RISE program is also administered to encourage economic diversification, new business opportunities, small business development, exporting, import substitution and tourism in Iowa.

163.2(2) The RISE program is administered by the department as a statewide program, with projects evaluated primarily on the basis of economic development criteria rather than solely on the basis of transportation criteria. In carrying out its program responsibilities, the department:

a. Involves local officials in program development and periodic program review and evaluation, including evaluation of the accomplishments and effectiveness of the RISE program. However, all project funding decisions are the responsibility of the commission.

b. Simplifies application processes and administrative procedures to the maximum practicable extent.

c. Designs the RISE program administrative procedures to be flexible enough to meet county and city needs.

d. Ensures neutrality and fairness in the treatment of all applications submitted for funding under the RISE program.

e. Promotes intergovernmental cooperation on economic development.

f. Promotes the use of innovative financing mechanisms for RISE projects.

163.2(3) The commission is responsible for all RISE project funding commitments. All project funding commitments are made subject to the availability of RISE funds.

163.2(4) The department will annually prepare a written report indicating the amount and percentage of funds committed during the previous year on primary roads, secondary roads, city streets, state park roads and county conservation parkways.

[ARC 9008C, IAB 3/19/25, effective 4/23/25]