571—12.37(483A) Fur harvester education program.

12.37(1) The fur harvester education program is designed to teach trappers safe and ethical trapping techniques and to instill responsible attitudes toward people, wildlife, and the environment.

12.37(2) The education course is offered in both a classroom and an online setting.

a. The classroom course is taught by certified instructors, and students will receive instruction and hands-on training on the history and heritage of the fur trade, biology and management of Iowa furbearers, wildlife regulations and their purpose, ethics and responsibility, fur harvesting equipment, the basics of harvesting Iowa furbearers, marketing furbearers, public relations, and the basics of outdoor safety and survival. Students will receive a certificate of completion at the end of the education program.

b. An online course is available through the department's website. The online course meets the standards set by IHEA—USA and has the same general content as the traditional classroom-based course. To complete the online course, a student must pass a final exam with a score of 75 percent or higher. Upon successful completion of the course and payment of any applicable online course fees to an approved vendor, the student will be issued a permanent certificate that the student can download and print immediately.

c. Students shall register as described on the program's website.

12.37(3) Reciprocity. The department recognizes fur harvester education courses sanctioned by a governmental authority of another state, province or country that meets the current IHEA—USA content and delivery standards. Students who successfully complete such a course are not required to take any additional training.

12.37(4) Any student who is 11 years of age or older may enroll in a course and receive a certificate if the student successfully completes the course; however, if the student is 11 years old, the certification shall not become valid until the student's twelfth birthday.

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