

129—6.15 (8B,17A) Discovery.

6.15(1) Pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.13, discovery procedures applicable in civil actions are applicable in contested cases.

6.15(2) The scope of discovery described in Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.503 shall apply to contested case proceedings.

6.15(3) The following discovery procedures available in the Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure are available to the parties in a contested case proceeding: depositions upon oral examination or written questions; written interrogatories; production of documents, electronically stored information, and things; and requests for admission. The time frames for discovery in the corresponding Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure govern those specific procedures, unless lengthened or shortened by the presiding officer.

a. Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure 1.701 through 1.717 regarding depositions shall apply to any depositions taken in a contested case proceeding. Any party taking a deposition in a contested case shall be responsible for any deposition costs, unless otherwise specified or allocated in an order. Deposition costs include, but are not limited to, reimbursement for mileage of the deponent, costs of a certified shorthand reporter, and expert witness fees, as applicable.

b. Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.509 shall apply to any interrogatories propounded in a contested case proceeding.

c. Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.512 shall apply to any requests for production of documents, electronically stored information, and things in a contested case proceeding.

d. Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.510 shall apply to any requests for admission in a contested case proceeding. Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.511 regarding the effect of an admission shall apply in contested case proceedings.

6.15(4) The mandatory disclosure and discovery conference requirements in Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure 1.500 and 1.507 do not apply to contested case proceedings. However, upon application by a party, the presiding officer may order the parties to comply with these procedures unless doing so would unreasonably complicate the proceedings or impose an undue hardship. As a practical matter the purpose of the disclosure requirements and discovery conference is served by the office's obligation to supply the information described in Iowa Code section 17A.13(2) upon request while a contested case is pending and the mutual exchange of information required in a prehearing conference under rule 129—6.16(8B,17A).

6.15(5) Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.508 shall apply to discovery of any experts identified by a party to a contested case proceeding.

6.15(6) Discovery shall be served on all parties to the contested case proceeding, but shall not be filed with the division or office.

6.15(7) A party may file a motion to compel or other motion related to discovery in accordance with this subrule. Any motion filed with the division or office, whichever is applicable, relating to discovery shall allege that the moving party previously made a good-faith attempt to resolve the discovery issues involved with the opposing party. Motions in regard to discovery shall be ruled upon by the presiding officer. Opposing parties shall be afforded the opportunity to respond within ten days of the filing of the motion unless the time is lengthened or shortened by the presiding officer. The presiding officer may rule on the basis of the written motion and any response or may order argument on the motion.

6.15(8) Evidence obtained in discovery may be used in the contested case proceeding if that evidence would otherwise be admissible in that proceeding.