

489—1.8(237) Program requirements.**1.8(1)** *Establishing additional procedures and protocols.*

a. The state board is responsible for approval of procedures and protocols consistent with the Iowa Code.

b. The department establishes and submits to the state board for approval a program policy and procedures manual that provides detailed guidance to department staff and volunteers on application of these rules and the statutes that govern the operation of the court appointed special advocate program.

c. Department staff and volunteers are required to comply with the protocols and procedures approved by the state board and the provisions of the policy and procedures manual established by the department and approved by the state board.

d. Implementation of program policy is the responsibility of the department.

e. The department is responsible for recruiting, screening, selecting, training, and supervising court appointed special advocates.

f. The CASA selection is made in a manner that provides the best match available between the knowledge, skills, abilities, and availability of the advocate and the needs of the child. The assignments shall be made in a manner that avoids conflicts of interest, risk to the child's or advocate's safety, or jeopardy to the program's integrity.

g. Upon selection of the CASA who will serve on an individual case, the court and all interested parties are notified of the selection.

h. The selected CASA continues to serve on the case until the assignment is terminated by the court.

1.8(2) Reserved.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 237.18.

[ARC 0344D, IAB 6/10/26, effective 8/1/26]