

261—221.3(88GA,SF608) Program description.

221.3(1) Amount, form, and timing of assistance. The program provides financial assistance to applicants to support creative, nontraditional ideas that focus on current challenges facing rural communities. The amount of assistance awarded will be determined by the authority based on the total amount of funds available to the authority for the program and based on the project details. Each award shall not be less than \$1,000.

221.3(2) Application.

a. Forms. All applications and other filings related to the program shall be on such forms and in accordance with such instructions as may be established by the authority. Information about the program, the application, and application instructions may be obtained by contacting the authority or by visiting the authority's website: Iowa Economic Development Authority, Community Development Division, 200 East Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50309, (515)328-3000, iowaeconomicdevelopment.com.

b. Application period. Each fiscal year during which funding is available, applications for financial assistance will only be accepted during the established application period, or periods, as identified by the authority on its website.

c. Frequency of application. An eligible applicant may only be named as the primary entity on one application per application period. However, an applicant who has applied as the primary entity for an application may also be named as a partner on additional applications submitted.

d. Complete application required. An application shall not be considered submitted for review until the application is completed and all required supporting documentation and information are provided.

221.3(3) Approval of assistance. Authority staff will review applications for financial assistance under the program, and a grant committee will score and recommend applications to the director in accordance with subrule 221.4(2). A project that does not receive funding may reapply.

221.3(4) Agreement required. The authority shall enter into an agreement with each applicant for the receipt of a grant under this chapter. The agreement must state the terms on which the financial assistance is to be provided. The authority may negotiate the terms of the agreement. The applicant shall execute the agreement before funds are disbursed under the program.

221.3(5) Form of financial assistance. The authority will provide financial assistance in the form of a grant to the applicant. The amount of the grant and any other terms shall be included in the agreement required pursuant to this chapter.

221.3(6) Use of funds.

a. An applicant shall use funds only for reimbursement of the costs directly related to the project. The authority may require documentation or other information establishing the actual costs incurred for a project. Failure to use the funds for reimbursement of the costs directly related to a project shall be grounds for default under the agreement required pursuant to this chapter.

b. For purposes of this subrule, "costs directly related" does not include ineligible expenses such as international travel, domestic travel outside the state of Iowa, insurance, training or professional development courses, and any other expenses specified as ineligible in the agreement required pursuant to this chapter.

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