

817—14.15(15H) Information specific to the Iowa green corps program.

14.15(1) *Incentives.* Incentives will be determined by federal funding guidelines or restrictions, depending on the source of funds utilized for the Iowa green corps in a given grant year. Types of incentives or combinations of incentives that may be used for a program design will be described in the application instructions.

14.15(2) *Grant criteria.* To respond to funding priorities, as funds are made available, the executive director of the commission will establish criteria consistent with federal regulations. If federal funds are being offered, applicants will be considered on a competitive basis.

14.15(3) *Designated funds.* A percentage of the grants may be designated by the commission to address capacity-building activities that target communities that are already working with existing community improvement programs, including but not limited to the green streets and main street Iowa programs administered by the Iowa economic development authority, and disaster remediation activities by communities located within an area declared to be a disaster area by the President of the United States or the governor of the state of Iowa.

14.15(4) *Application process for new grants.*

a. The commission will issue a request for applications containing project criteria and application forms for the applicable fiscal year.

b. The applicant shall submit the completed application to the commission according to the timeline identified in the request for applications.

c. Applications submitted will be reviewed by a grant review committee, which is composed of members of the commission grant review committee, individuals with expertise in youth programming, and the citizens of Iowa. Using the criteria in subrule 14.15(2), the committee will review the applications for appropriateness and to determine the merit of the project.

14.15(5) *Administration of grants.*

a. Contracts. The commission will prepare contractual agreements for the grants.

b. Reporting. All grant recipients shall submit progress and financial reports to the commission.

c. Availability of funds. Separate requests for applications will only be issued when there are available funds for this program. To the extent allowable by federal regulations, Iowa green corps will always be an acceptable program model for annual AmeriCorps grants and will be listed in the annual AmeriCorps program request for applications.

d. Notification. Applicants whose projects have been selected for funding will be notified by the commission.

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