

817—7.1(15H) Purpose and program description. The purpose of the retired and senior volunteer program (RSVP) is to identify and address priority community needs through the mobilization of adult volunteers aged 55 and over, thereby recognizing and using the competence, wisdom and experience of this age group for the benefit of all Iowans. RSVP grants will give support to each RSVP project serving Iowa and provide discretionary grants on a competitive basis for RSVP project expansion. The commission administers two types of RSVP grants:

7.1(1) *RSVP grant.* Each RSVP project which has a current memorandum of agreement to operate an RSVP project from the Corporation for National and Community Service (the federal domestic volunteer agency) is to be allocated a share of state funds appropriated for distribution. Each RSVP project shall submit to the commission a budget outlining the method by which the project will expend the grant allotted to the project and other information as requested by the commission.

7.1(2) *State-developed RSVP project grants.* From state funds appropriated by the legislature, RSVP projects will be developed that are consistent with the goals of the Corporation for National and Community Service, RSVP and the commission. After a review by the grant review committee pursuant to subrule 7.4(3), grants will be awarded on a competitive basis by the commission and the Corporation for National and Community Service to local organizations or groups to initiate new RSVP projects. Decisions to make state funding available for new state-developed programs or existing program expansions must be approved by the commission.