

**261—216.6(15F) Application process.**

**216.6(1)** Applications for assistance under the program shall be submitted to the authority. For those applications that meet the threshold application requirements and the eligibility criteria, the authority shall forward the applications to the board and provide a staff review analysis and evaluation to the sports tourism program review committee and to the board.

**216.6(2)** When reviewing the applications, the review committee and the authority shall consider, at a minimum, all of the following:

- a.* Impact of the project on the local, regional, and state economies.
- b.* Amount of positive advertising or media coverage the project generates in national and international markets.
- c.* Quality, size, and scope of the project.
- d.* The extent to which the project would generate additional recreational and cultural attractions or tourism opportunities.
- e.* The extent to which the sporting event to be supported by the infrastructure project is unique, innovative, or diverse.

**216.6(3)** Upon review of the recommendations of the review committee, the board shall make final funding decisions on each application. The board may approve, defer, deny, or modify applications for financial assistance under the program, in its discretion, in order to fund as many projects with the moneys available as possible. The board and the authority may negotiate with applicants regarding the details of projects and the amount and terms of any award. In making final funding decisions pursuant to this subrule, the board and the authority are exempt from Iowa Code chapter 17A.

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