

**817—11.4 (15H) Grant criteria.** Beginning with the 2016-2017 program year applications, the commission will establish criteria and funding priorities consistent with federal regulations and the goals of the department of education and the commission. Preapproval of applicant eligibility shall be sought as outlined in 817—11.3(15H). Applicants will be considered either in conjunction with the regular AmeriCorps grant process or, in certain cases, through special competitions outlined and announced by the commission. At a minimum, the criteria will include the following:

1. Goals and objectives of the project;
2. Qualifications of the applicant to manage funds;
3. For new and returning applicants, letters of local support verifying coordination and community cooperation;
4. Total project budget;
5. For previous grantees, evidence of ability to submit timely and accurate reports;
6. Description and time line of planned activities;
7. Description of the applicant organization, including staffing pattern;
8. Documentation of the applicant's ability to provide the required local match;
9. Program performance and evaluation results and outcomes; and
10. Demonstration of the project's alignment with literacy program goals and strategies developed by the department of education, the local school districts served, and the Iowa reading research center.

This rule is intended to implement 2015 Iowa Acts, House File 488, section 2.

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