501—8.6(17A,80B,80D) Application for approval of regional training center.

8.6(1) *Application.* Upon approval of a preliminary application or at the time for renewal of regional training center approval, an application will be accepted when a fully completed application is submitted to council on the approved form. As of January 1, 2027, existing regional training centers will submit renewal applications on a schedule approved by the council.

8.6(2) *On-site inspection.* An inspection of a proposed regional training center may be conducted by designated members of the council, with or without advance notice to the facility. The inspection will be conducted within 45 days of the council meeting following receipt of the application. The visit will include inspection of facilities, equipment, training procedures, instructional materials, and program materials and discussion of the proposed training philosophy with key personnel.

8.6(3) *Informal hearing.* An application for approval or renewal of a regional training center will be heard by the council within 90 days of the facility inspection or receipt of the complete application, whichever is later. The provisions in Iowa Code chapter 17A concerning contested cases are not applicable to the informal hearing on the application.

8.6(4) *Evaluation considerations.* The council will consider standardization of training, impact on existing training programs, academic qualifications (including but not limited to training schedule, curriculum, structure, handbooks, director/coordinator credentials and experience, and instructor credentials and experience), facilities and equipment, the on-site inspection report, financial qualifications, and any other relevant factors. The council will also consider a regional training center's willingness to coordinate with the academy and will provide the director evidence of ongoing progress and successful completion for each recruit enrolled in the course on the academy's approved form.

8.6(5) *Written decision.* The council will issue a written decision approving or denying approval of the regional training center within 90 days of the informal hearing.

8.6(6) *Approval.* Initial and subsequent regional training center approvals are valid for five years.

8.6(7) *Appeal.* A denial may be appealed under Iowa Code section 17A.19.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 17A.19, 80B.11(1)*"a"* and *"k,"* 80B.13(1), 80B.13(2), 80B.13(5), and 80D.4A.

[**ARC 0734D**, IAB 11/11/26, effective 1/1/27]