261—404.6(15) Application process and review.

404.6(1) The board will issue funding announcements for grant applications at least once per fiscal year, provided funds are available.

404.6(2) Application forms will be available at iowagrants.gov.

404.6(3) Applications will only be accepted during the established application period, as identified by the Iowa energy center on its website at www.iowaeconomicdevelopment.com.

404.6(4) The Iowa energy center will review applications and make funding decisions after each funding announcement. Review criteria typically include but are not limited to:

a. The proposed project demonstrates a need for further research, development, training or pilot projects.

b. The proposed project provides a benefit to ratepayers.

c. The application has a well-developed budget that is relevant to the project and that provides documentation of planned project expenses.

d. The application describes a dissemination plan for postgrant activities.

404.6(5) Applicants must first submit a preapplication. The authority will review the preapplication for eligibility and recommend preapplications to the grant committee. The grant committee will review the preapplications and determine which preapplications warrant submission of full applications.

404.6(6) An application may not be submitted to the Iowa energy center until a preapplication has been submitted to the Iowa energy center and the grant committee has approved submission of the application. The authority will review applications for completeness, eligibility, and technical and financial merit. The authority may engage an outside technical review panel to complete technical review of applications. The authority will prepare recommendations for the grant committee. The grant committee will review the applications and staff recommendations and make recommendations to the board. Upon review of the recommendations of the grant committee, the board shall approve, defer, or deny each application.
[**ARC 4262C**, IAB 1/30/19, effective 3/6/19]