

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT[871]

Adopted and Filed Emergency

Rulemaking related to Innovation Businesses Internship Program

The Director of the Workforce Development Department hereby amends Chapter 69, “Innovative Businesses Internship Program,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code section 84A.21.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code section 84A.21.

Purpose and Summary

This rulemaking updates outdated references and remove restrictive terms.

Reason for Adoption of Rulemaking Without Prior Notice and Opportunity for Public Participation

Pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.4(3), the Department finds that notice and public participation are unnecessary or impractical because emergency adoption was approved by the Administrative Rules Review Committee. In compliance with Iowa Code section 17A.4(3)“a,” the Administrative Rules Review Committee at its January 12, 2026, meeting reviewed this rulemaking and approved the emergency adoption.

Reason for Waiver of Normal Effective Date

Pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.5(2)“b”(1)(b), the Department also finds that the normal effective date of this rulemaking, 35 days after publication, should be waived and the rulemaking made effective on January ___, 2026. This rulemaking will confer a benefit on the public in that local small and medium-sized businesses will continue to receive funding as they have in the past under Iowa Economic Development Authority and most recently under Iowa Workforce Development. This clarifies that that by Iowa Code 84A.21, Iowa Workforce Development administers this program. In addition, this is a clerical update to make it clear that businesses with a significant portion of their workforce employed within the state of Iowa may receive funding.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Workforce Development Department on January ___, 2026.

Concurrent Publication of Notice of Intended Action

In addition to its adoption on an emergency basis, this rulemaking has been initiated through the normal rulemaking process and is published herein under Notice of Intended Action as **ARC** to allow for public comment.

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Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Department for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on January ___, 2026, at which time the Adopted and Filed Emergency rulemaking is hereby rescinded.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Amend 871-69.1(15) as follows:

871-69.1(15) Authority. The authority for adopting rules establishing an innovative businesses internship program is provided in Iowa Code section ~~15.411(4)~~ 84A.21.

ITEM 2. Amend 871-69.2(15) as follows:

871-69.2(15) Purpose. The purpose of the innovative business internship program is to link Iowa students to ~~internship opportunities with innovative small- and medium-sized firms and to help such students convert their internships into employment opportunities.~~ small- and medium-sized Iowa firms through internship opportunities.

ITEM 3. Rescind the definition of “*Committee*” in 871—69.3(15)

ITEM 4. Amend subrule 69.5(1) as follows:

69.5(1) The business is (a) an Iowa-based business with fewer than 500 employees, or b) a business that is not based in Iowa with a significant portion employed within the state of Iowa.

ITEM 5. Amend subrule 69.6(1) as follows:

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69.6(1) A business that is engaged in retail sales ~~or that provides health services,~~
healthcare, or other businesses requiring a professional license.

ITEM 6. Amend subrule 69.13(4) as follows:

69.13(4) *Contract amendments.* The board does not need to approve a contract amendment. ~~The director may approve contract amendments consistent with 15.106C.~~

ITEM 7. Amend 871—Chapter 69, implementation sentence, as follows:

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code section ~~15.411(4)~~ 84A.21.

DRAFT