

The orientation and adjustment center is a residential training program for blind adults. Blind persons, especially newly blinded individuals, come to learn the techniques and skills of blindness, and, more importantly to develop positive attitudes about themselves as human beings who happen to be blind. Typical skills taught are travel with the "long white cane," communications such as Braille and keyboarding skills, cooking, sewing, and other homemaking skills, uses of technology and industrial arts.

Vocational and independent living rehabilitation assists blind persons to realize their maximum potential of independence and self-support. Rehabilitation teachers provide one-on-one teaching of the skills and techniques of blindness in a person's home community. Rehabilitation counselors work with blind persons to develop vocational goals, receive appropriate vocational training and employment. Independent living teachers provide services to blind Iowans who are ineligible for traditional vocational rehabilitation services because of age or a severe secondary disability. They work with individuals in their home communities and provide instruction in the skills and techniques of blindness. They expose blind persons to positive attitudes about blindness and assist in developing community based support systems.

The library for the blind and physically handicapped provides books and magazines in the alternative media of braille, recorded disc, cassette tape, and large type to eligible Iowans. Individuals who are blind, have a vision loss that does not constitute legal blindness, but is sufficient to prevent use of standard print with ease, physically handicapped or reading disabled persons qualify for library service. The library also distributes machines on which the records and tapes may be played.

The Business Enterprises Program enables blind Iowans to operate food service facilities on federal, state, municipal, and private property. The provision of initial and ongoing food service and management training, as well as beginning inventory and purchase of equipment, means that blind persons in the program can become self-sufficient, tax paying citizens.

The department makes available a variety of specialized aids, appliances and recreational items that can be purchased by blind Iowans at cost or furnished as part of some individual rehabilitation plans. White canes for independent travel, Braille and electronic watches and clocks, specially marked games, Braille and print writing devices, various types of measuring equipment and miscellaneous aids are among the items available.

A number of blind children are enrolled in regular public schools throughout the state. Upon request, the department works with the Bureau of Special Education of the Department of Education to procure books and specialized material for those children and to provide counseling and guidance.

A registry of the blind in Iowa showing cause of blindness, age and other statistical information valuable in program evaluation and planning is maintained by the department. It is estimated that there are more than 57,000 blind Iowans and that 25 Iowans become blind each week.

## CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

*Diann Wilder-Tomlinson, executive director*  
 211 E. Maple Street, Des Moines 50309-1858  
 515/281-4121; 1/800/457-4416; Fax 515/242-5840  
[www.state.ia.us/government/crc](http://www.state.ia.us/government/crc)

JACK MORLAN, West Des Moines; term expires 2001; ROBERT L. SMITH, JR., Waterloo; term expires 2001; FLORA M. LEE, Sioux City; term expires 2001; MOHAMAD W. KHAN, Pleasant Hill; term expires 2001; ALICIA P. CLAYPOOL, Des Moines; term expires 2003; RACHAEL J. SCHERLE, Henderson; term expires 2003; DAVID R. LESHTZ, Iowa City; term expires 2003

Under the Iowa Civil Rights Act of 1965, as amended, the Civil Rights Commission is charged with investigating, holding hearings, and rendering decisions on any complaints of unfair or discriminatory practices in public accommodations, employment, credit, housing, apprenticeship programs, on-the-job training programs and vocational schools on the basis of age, race, creed, color, sex, religion, national origin, or disability; and with planning and conducting programs designed to eliminate racial, religious, cultural, and intergroup tensions. The commission consists of seven members appointed by the governor to staggered terms of four

years subject to the advice and consent of the Senate. No more than four members of the commission shall belong to the same political party, and its membership shall represent as wide an area as practical. Hearings are provided in the event of failure of conciliation, and orders resulting from such hearings are subject to judicial review. Commission officers are elected by the members and serve for one year starting on May 1.

## COMMERCE, DEPARTMENT OF

*Roger Halvorson, director*  
*Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines 50319*  
*515/281-5705*  
*www.state.ia.us/government/com*

The Department of Commerce was created to coordinate and administer the various regulatory, service, and licensing functions of the state relating to the conducting of business and commerce in the state.

The chief administrative officer of the department is the director. The director shall be appointed by the governor from among those individuals who serve as heads of the divisions within the department. The appointment shall rotate among the division heads such that the division head of any one division shall not be appointed to be the director for a second year until such time as each division head has served as the director. A division head appointed to be the director shall fulfill the responsibilities and duties of the director in addition to the individual's responsibilities and duties as the head of a division. The department consists of the Office of Administrative Services and the following divisions:

**Administrative Services** - *Martin Deaton, Chief of Services; 1918 SE Hulsizer, Ankeny 50021; 515/281-7364*

Administrative Services provides data processing, personnel, payroll and shared administrative support services for the department, and coordinates the development of the department's finances.

**Alcoholic Beverages Division** - *Jack Nystrom, administrator; 1918 S.E. Hulsizer Ave., Ankeny 50021; 515/281-7401*

ROBERT L. CRAMER, Boone; term expires 2003; SHIRLEY DAGGETT, Earlham; term expires 2004; DARYL K. HENZE, Urbandale; term expires 2002; DR. SUZANNE B. MULDER, Ames; term expires 2000; DICK C. STOFFER, Chariton; term expires 2001

The Alcoholic Beverages Division was created administratively within the Department of Commerce to administer and enforce the laws of this state concerning beer, wine and alcoholic liquor. The division also has the sole power to buy, import, and sell at wholesale all alcoholic liquors in the state. Total funds generated in FY98 were in excess of \$56 million with over \$40 million being directly deposited into the state general fund. The wholesaling of liquor to package liquor stores accounted for approximately \$33 million of total transfer.

An Alcoholic Beverages Commission was created within the division and is composed of five members, not more than three of whom shall belong to the same political party. Commission members are appointed by the governor for five-year terms subject to confirmation by two-thirds of the Senate. The commission shall act as a division policy-making body and serve in an advisory capacity to the division administrator.

The division administrator is appointed by the governor to a four-year term subject to confirmation by two-thirds of the Senate. The administrator supervises the daily operations of the division and executes the policies of the division as determined by the commission. The commission may affirm, reverse, or amend all actions of the administrator, including but not limited to the following instances:

A. Purchase of alcoholic liquor for resale by the division.