

**721—6.3 (9E) Renewal of certification; recertification.** This rule facilitates the administration of the safe at home program in accordance with Iowa Code section 9E.3(3). This rule describes the manner and process for renewal of program participant certification and for recertification.

**6.3(1) *Renewal notification.*** At least 30 days before the expiration of a program participant's certification, the secretary shall inform the program participant of the option of renewing certification in the safe at home program by sending an application to renew certification (renewal application) by first-class mail to the program participant's mailing address. The notice must also provide instructions to the program participant on what actions to take upon expiration of the certification, including the return of any safe at home cards and notification to public and private persons of the program participant's actual address, and that the designated address is no longer the address of the program participant. If the secretary has not received a renewal application within 10 days before the expiration of the program participant's certification, the secretary must mail a notice to the program participant reminding the program participant of the option to renew.

**6.3(2) *Renewal process.*** Along with the renewal application sent 30 days prior to expiration, the secretary may include a voter registration form so that the program participant may register to vote if the program participant has not already done so.

*a. Application.* The secretary shall renew the certification of a program participant when the secretary receives a complete renewal application from that program participant. The completed renewal application must contain the same information required in the certification application as specified in Iowa Code section 9E.3(1).

*b. Duties of applicant.* The program participant must provide all the information required by Iowa Code section 9E.3(3) and date and sign the renewal application.

*c. Completed renewal application to be signed.* The program participant must sign the completed renewal application and submit it and any additional materials in person, by mail, by facsimile, or by electronic mail to the secretary.

*d. Missing information.* If the completed renewal application does not meet the requirements of this subrule, the secretary shall contact the program participant or applicant to obtain the missing information.

*e. Effective date.* If submitted on or before the expiration date of the certification, a properly completed renewal application is effective on the day it is reviewed and certified by the secretary.

*f. Duties of the secretary and program participants.* The secretary must send a new safe at home card(s), which shall have an updated expiration date, within 10 business days of renewing a program participant's certification. The program participant must immediately sign the new safe at home card(s) upon receipt. The program participant must return any expired cards to the secretary by first-class mail so that they may be properly destroyed.

*g. Penalties.* A person who falsely attests in a renewal application or who knowingly provides false information upon making an application for certification renewal is subject to cancellation of program certification.

**6.3(3) *Recertification of former participants.*** Former program participants who have left the program through the withdrawal or cancellation process may reapply for certification in the program.

*a. Application.* The secretary may recertify a former program participant when the secretary receives an application from that former program participant. The application for recertification must contain the same information required in the certification application as specified in Iowa Code section 9E.3(1).

*b. Duties of applicant.* The applicant must provide all the information required by Iowa Code section 9E.3(1) and date and sign the application.

*c. Completed application to be signed.* The applicant must sign the completed application and submit it and any additional materials in person, by mail, by facsimile, or by electronic mail to the secretary.

*d. Missing information.* If the completed application does not meet the requirements of this subrule, the secretary shall contact the program participant or applicant to obtain the missing information.

*e. Explanation statement.* An applicant whose program participation was canceled under rule 721—6.2(9E) may be required to submit an explanation of the action that resulted in cancellation.

*f. Effective date.* A properly completed application is effective on the day it is reviewed and certified by the secretary.

*g. Duties of the secretary and program participants.* The secretary must send a new safe at home card(s), which shall have current expiration date and information, within 10 business days of recertifying a former program participant. The program participant must immediately sign the safe at home card(s) upon receipt.

*h. Penalties.* A person who falsely attests in an application or who knowingly provides false information upon making an application for recertification is subject to denial or cancellation of program certification.