

TO: Members of the General Assembly

FROM: Brady Carney, Director, ILEA

SUBJECT: 80B.11D Revision to allow completed out of state secondary education

Background:

Iowa Code section 80B.11D (3) is a provision that covers Basic Training and who is eligible for a “short course” path to law enforcement certification. People want to come to Iowa for personal and profession reasons, and this includes law enforcement professionals. Restrictive language in our current law negatively impacts the ability of Iowa law enforcement agencies to recruit and retain law enforcement professionals who have completed specific secondary education at academic institutions outside of Iowa.

Proposed Solution:

Current law states “An individual who submits an application pursuant to subsection 1 shall, at a minimum, submit proof of successful completion of a two-year or four-year police science or criminal justice program at an accredited educational institution in this state approved by the academy.”

This language, specifically “in this state,” doesn’t allow for out of state secondary education to be considered by ILEA, and this negatively impacts Iowa law enforcement agencies ability to recruit talented applicants from other states. Law enforcement agencies across Iowa, and especially those in border cities and counties, are recruiting applicants from other states in attempts to increase their dwindling applicant pools. Many out of state applicants have completed secondary education from out of state educational institutions, but the current “in this state” language doesn’t allow for their completed secondary education to count towards a the short course path to law enforcement certification in Iowa. Subsequently, Iowa not recognizing completed out state secondary education can and does dissuade educated applicants from joining the law enforcement profession in Iowa and pushes them towards employment in other states. Restricting the influx of educated applicants from other states not only hurts local recruiting and retention efforts, but it also negatively impacts the overall educated workforce in law enforcement and all across Iowa.

ILEA will still properly scrutinize and vet the transcripts and curriculum from out state educational institutions to ensure the completed secondary education meets the requirements of police science or criminal justice programs as further required by current Iowa code.



STATE OF IOWA

KIM REYNOLDS
GOVERNOR

IOWA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY
BRADY CARNEY, DIRECTOR

ADAM GREGG
LT. GOVERNOR

Requested Language Iowa Code section 80B.11D (3):

An individual who submits an application pursuant to subsection 1 shall, at a minimum, submit proof of successful completion of a two-year or four-year police science or criminal justice program at an accredited educational institution ~~in this state~~ approved by the academy.

Thanks for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brady Carney".

Brady Carney

Director

IA Law Enforcement Academy

515.331.5766

Professionalism Through Training