

Red Tape Review Rule Report (Due: September 1, 2025)

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------|--|---------------------|
| Department Name: | Iowa Department of Education – Bureau of Iowa College Aid | Date: | 7/25/2024 | Total Rule Count: | 9 |
| IAC #: | 283 | Chapter/ SubChapter/ Rule(s): | Chapter 27 | Iowa Code Section Authorizing Rule: | 256.178 and 256.226 |
| Contact Name: | Todd Brown | Email: | Todd.brown@iowa.gov | Phone: | 515-210-7670 |

PLEASE NOTE, THE BOXES BELOW WILL EXPAND AS YOU TYPE

What is the intended benefit of the rule?

Eligible applicants, eligible practice areas, and the Commission will benefit from the rulemaking since it clarifies the application process, priority ranking of awards, and selection process for the loan repayment program.

Is the benefit being achieved? Please provide evidence.

The benefit of the rule is achieved, as each of the processes and provisions intended to provide a benefit are illustrated within the rulemaking.

What are the costs incurred by the public to comply with the rule?

Employers are required to verify completion of the employment obligation. While this requirement is not specifically established in law, an alternative data source that could effectively replace the employer’s timely verification of employment has yet to be found. The Commission has implemented similar requirements for employers in other programs and does not anticipate the administrative burden of the requirement to result in measurable cost. Ensuring the timely payment of the of the loan repayment award is a critical part of the effective operation of the program, and this cannot be done without the assistance of employers.

What are the costs to the agency or any other agency to implement/enforce the rule?

The agency would incur minimal costs to implement and enforce the rule.

Do the costs justify the benefits achieved? Please explain.

The costs justify the benefits achieved. The cost of inaction would be confusion in the process and criteria to be used in the application and awarding of funds under the program. In addition, the program could not be administered without employer verification of completed obligations of the eligible applicants.

Are there less restrictive alternatives to accomplish the benefit? YES NO

If YES, please list alternative(s) and provide analysis of less restrictive alternatives from other states, if applicable. If NO, please explain.

The rulemaking proposes an efficient administrative method of collecting applications and disbursing funding, reducing any administrative burden that otherwise might be introduced. The administrative method proposed for this program is the most cost-efficient method utilized by the Commission in the administration of state financial aid programs.

Does this chapter/rule(s) contain language that is obsolete, outdated, inconsistent, redundant, or unnecessary language, including instances where rule language is duplicative of statutory language? [list chapter/rule number(s) that fall under any of the above categories]

PLEASE NOTE, THE BOXES BELOW WILL EXPAND AS YOU TYPE

Much of the language within each rule was condensed or eliminated because it was redundant of Iowa Code. The following rules were eliminated entirely.

27.1 – obsolete rule.

27.3 – moved into 27.2 as a definition.

27.4 - consolidated into a different rule within the chapter.

27.5 – consolidated into a different rule within the chapter.

27.7 – redundant of statutory language.

27.8 – obsolete rule.

27.9 – consolidated into a different rule within the chapter.

RULES PROPOSED FOR REPEAL (list rule number[s]):

27.1, 27.3, 27.4, 27.5, 27.7, 27.8, 27.9

RULES PROPOSED FOR RE-PROMULGATION (list rule number[s] or include rule text if available):

CHAPTER 27
RURAL VETERINARIAN LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

283—27.1(256) Definitions.

“*Eligible applicant*” means an individual who meets the criteria of Iowa Code sections 256.226(3) and 256.226(4), agrees to sign a program agreement, agrees to begin employment under the obligation within one year of signing a program agreement, and agrees to complete the obligation. The eligible applicant completes applications on or before the date established by the commission and does not meet a condition in 283 – subrule 10.3(1).

1. The program agreement specifies the obligation and other details pertaining to the program.
2. The obligation is considered fulfilled or may be postponed pursuant to Iowa Code section 256.226(9). Progression towards completion of the obligation is verified annually.

“*Eligible loan*” means the same as defined in Iowa Code section 256.226(1). Only the outstanding portion of a federal consolidation loan that was used to repay an eligible loan qualifies as an eligible loan.

“*Food supply veterinary medicine*” means the same as practice of food supply veterinary medicine defined in Iowa Code section 256.226(1).

“*Rural service commitment area*” means the same as defined in Iowa Code section 256.226(1). An eligible applicant who signs a program agreement to serve in a service commitment area will contract with the service commitment area to ensure the service commitment area provides a nonrefundable contribution equivalent to 12.5 percent of the eligible applicant’s eligible loan balance, at the time the program agreement is signed, for deposit in the rural veterinarian trust fund. Payment of the nonrefundable contribution to the trust fund can be made by, but is not limited to, the following organizations: community agencies, medical groups, municipalities, community foundations, local government entities, or other community entities. Locations and distances between cities will be consistently measured and verified by calculating the shortest travel distance on paved roads.

“*Veterinary shortage area*” means the same as defined in Iowa Code section 256.226(1).

283—27.2(256) Awarding of funds.

27.2(1) Selection criteria. All eligible applicants will be considered for an award.

27.2(2) Extent of award and maximum award. Eligible applicants may receive up to \$60,000 upon completion of the obligation. The loan repayment award will not exceed the outstanding balance of the eligible applicant’s eligible loans.

26.2(3) Priority for awards. New awards will be made in the order of the following priority categories if funding is insufficient to award all eligible applicants. An eligible applicant selected for an award under a priority category will continue to meet the provisions of that category to maintain eligibility.

a. Eligible applicants who will be employed in a private practice providing food supply veterinary medicine in a veterinary shortage area and have graduated from an Iowa high school or completed private instruction under Iowa Code chapter 299A, by date of application; followed by eligible applicants who will be employed in a private practice providing food supply veterinary medicine in a veterinary shortage area and have not graduated from an Iowa high school or completed private instruction under Iowa Code chapter 299A, by date of application.

b. Eligible applicants who will be employed in a private practice providing food supply veterinary medicine in a service commitment area and have graduated from an Iowa high school or completed private instruction under Iowa Code chapter 299A, by date of application; followed by eligible applicants who will be employed in a private practice providing food supply veterinary medicine in a service commitment area and have not graduated from an Iowa high school or completed private instruction under Iowa Code chapter 299A, by date of application.

c. Eligible applicants who will practice as a veterinarian in a service commitment area and have graduated from an Iowa high school or completed private instruction under Iowa Code chapter 299A, by date of application; followed by eligible applicants who will practice as veterinarians in a service commitment area and have not graduated from an Iowa high school or completed private instruction under Iowa Code chapter 299A, by date of application.

26.2(4) Awarding process.

- a. The commission will provide notice of the eligibility criteria and the application process annually.
- b. The commission will designate eligible applicants for awards, and notify all applicants of their eligibility.
- c. The commission will track eligible applicants selected to receive awards through completion of their obligation. Completion of the obligation will be verified by the eligible applicant’s employer. An obligation is satisfied pursuant to Iowa Code section 256.226(9).
- d. The commission will pay the loan repayment award directly to the holder of the eligible applicant’s eligible loan.

283—27.3(256) Failure to Fulfill Obligation. An eligible applicant who fails to fulfill the obligation pursuant to Iowa Code

section 256.226(9) will be subject to repayment of any loan repayment awards paid under this chapter toward the eligible applicant's eligible loans as specified in the program agreement.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 256.

****For rules being re-promulgated with changes, you may attach a document with suggested changes.***

METRICS

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Total number of rules repealed: | 6 |
| Proposed word count reduction after repeal and/or re-promulgation | 1,059 |
| Proposed number of restrictive terms eliminated after repeal and/or re-promulgation | 21 |

ARE THERE ANY STATUTORY CHANGES YOU WOULD RECOMMEND INCLUDING CODIFYING ANY RULES?