

Red Tape Review Rule Report (Due: September 1, 20 26)

Department Name:	Iowa Communications Network (ICN)	Date:	5/13/2026	Total Rule Count:	3
IAC #:	751	Chapter/ SubChapter/ Rule(s):	Chapter 7	Iowa Code Section Authorizing Rule:	8D.2, 8D.3(1), 8D.3(3)B, 8D.13 to 8D.17
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PLEASE NOTE, THE BOXES BELOW WILL EXPAND AS YOU TYPE

What is the intended benefit of the rule?

The chapter describes the authorized use and users of the statewide network, ensuring network use is mission-based.

Is the benefit being achieved? Please provide evidence.

Yes. The qualitative impact is positive; the rulemaking simplifies the regulatory environment by removing obsolete language and providing clearer guidance on authorized use and users.

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

There is no direct cost associated with the proposed rulemaking.

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

There are no costs to the State or the agency associated with this rulemaking.

Do the costs justify the benefits achieved? Please explain.

Yes. This rulemaking ensures the agency has a basic structure and has no costs associated with it.

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 agency seeks to implement these rules in a minimally intrusive and minimally prescriptive manner while still fulfilling the responsibilities of maintaining a well-run state communications network. No other methods were considered as the proposed rulemaking is necessary to comply with Executive Order 10's mandate to streamline and modernize existing rules.

Does this chapter/rule(s) contain language that is obsolete, outdated, inconsistent, redundant, or unnecessary language, including instances where rule language is duplicative of statutory language?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]

Yes. 751—Chapter 7 (Entire legacy chapter). The previous iteration of the chapter was cluttered with repetitive statutory definitions, overly restrictive parameters, and legacy mandates that are no longer applicable to modern telecommunications. The new chapter eliminates this obsolete language.

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

Rescind 751—Chapter 7 in its entirety

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

Adopt the following new chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 7 Authorized Use and Users

751—7.1(8D) Definitions. For the purposes of interpreting these rules, the following definitions are applicable.

“Authorized facility” means a site operated by an authorized user that is consistent with the written mission of the authorized user.

“Authorized user” means a private or public agency as defined in Iowa Code section 8D.2.

“Authorized use” means use of the network by an authorized user or by persons acting on behalf of an authorized user as provided in this chapter for the following purposes of the authorized user: (1) state or federal communications as defined in this chapter; (2) education or educational purposes as defined in this chapter; (3) training programs provided under state law and training programs developed by authorized users; (4) telemedicine or related purposes as defined in this chapter; (5) official governmental use by a state agency or a federal agency as defined in this chapter consistent with authorized purposes under applicable state or federal law; (6) establishing and operating a shared data only network for law enforcement, emergency management, disaster services, emergency warning and other emergency information dissemination services to federal, state and local law enforcement agencies and local emergency management offices; or (7) city of Des Moines.

“Private agency” means an accredited nonpublic school, a nonprofit institution of higher education eligible for tuition grants, a hospital licensed pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 135B, or a physician clinic to the extent provided in Iowa Code section 8D.13(13).

“Public agency” means a state agency, an institution under the control of the board of regents, the judicial branch as provided in Iowa Code section 8D.13(14), a school corporation, a city library, a regional library as provided in Iowa Code chapter 256, a county library as provided in Iowa Code chapter 336, or an agency of the federal government.

751—7.2(8D) Eligibility.

7.2(1) Mission-based use. Use of the network must be consistent with the written mission of the authorized user.

7.2(2) Unauthorized use. The network shall not be used for personal, commercial, or political purposes, except as specifically authorized by law.

751—7.3(8D) Authorized facility connectivity.

7.3(1) Education. Public and private K-12 schools, area education agencies, and higher education institutions may connect directly to the network.

7.3(2) State agencies. State boards, commissions or departments, the Iowa national guard, and the executive, legislative, and judicial branches may connect directly to the network.

7.3(3) Telemedicine. Hospitals and physician clinics (as defined in Iowa Code section 8D.13(13)) may connect for telemedicine and educational purposes.

7.3(4) Federal. A board, commission, department, or agency of the federal government may connect to the network as provided in Iowa Code section 8D.13(13).

These rules are intended to implement sections 8D.2, 8D.3(1), 8D.3(3)b, and 8D.13(14) to 8D.13(17).

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

METRICS

Total number of rules repealed:	8
Proposed word count reduction after repeal and/or re-promulgation	2,681
Proposed number of restrictive terms eliminated after repeal and/or re-promulgation	19

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

Yes. We recommend a comprehensive update to Iowa Code Chapter 8D to modernize the statute, streamline legacy code, and align the agency's authorizing framework with current technology and state government structures.