

**321—15.6(231) Application process.**

**15.6(1)** In a fiscal year in which funding is available, the department shall release, by July 1, an RFP detailing the application requirements, type of EAI requested and the criteria for qualification for new projects or expansion counties. The criteria shall include compliance with Iowa Code section 231.56A(3). The EAI designation and funding are awarded based on these criteria and those established in the RFP.

**15.6(2)** AAA that seek to initiate a new EAI or expand their current EAI service beyond that designated in the current contract may make application to the department as specified in the RFP.

**15.6(3)** All application materials shall be reviewed by the department and, if appropriate, a recommendation for approval made to the commission based on the completeness of the application and the apparent ability of the applicant to meet the criteria established in the Iowa Code and the RFP.

**15.6(4)** Upon commission approval of the department recommendation, the successful applicant shall enter into a contract with the department which delineates the responsibilities of each party.