

## LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY[501]

### Regulatory Analysis

Notice of Intended Action to be published: 501—Chapter 5  
“Endorsements”

Iowa Code section(s) or chapter(s) authorizing rulemaking: 17A, 80B, and 80D  
State or federal law(s) implemented by the rulemaking: Iowa Code chapters 80B and 80D

### *Public Hearing*

A public hearing at which persons may present their views orally or in writing will be held as follows:

July 14, 2026  
9 to 10 a.m.

In person: 7105 NW 70th Avenue  
Burma Road, Building A41  
Johnston, Iowa  
Online: [us06web.zoom.us/j/88403237275](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88403237275)

### *Public Comment*

Any interested person may submit written comments concerning this Regulatory Analysis, which must be received by the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy no later than 4:30 p.m. on July 14, 2026. Comments should be directed to:

Kristi Traynor  
Iowa Law Enforcement Academy  
P.O. Box 130  
Johnston, Iowa 50131  
Email: [kristi.traynor@iowa.gov](mailto:kristi.traynor@iowa.gov)

### *Purpose and Summary*

Chapter 5 describes the practical skill endorsements, content endorsements, and other endorsements that the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy Council will issue to eligible law enforcement officers, reserve officers, jail administrators, jailers, public safety telecommunicators, Academy staff instructors, and other professional partners who meet the qualifications for the endorsement. As a part of the Red Tape Review required by Executive Order 10, this chapter was reviewed and revised.

### *Analysis of Impact*

**1. Persons affected by the proposed rulemaking:**

• **Classes of persons that will bear the costs of the proposed rulemaking:**

This proposed rulemaking does not have a cost to the public.

• **Classes of persons that will benefit from the proposed rulemaking:**

This proposed rulemaking will benefit law enforcement officers, reserve officers, jail administrators, jailers, public safety telecommunicators, Academy staff instructors, and other professional partners by clearly defining the eligibility and qualifications necessary to secure various endorsements issued by the Council.

**2. Impact of the proposed rulemaking, economic or otherwise, including the nature and amount of all the different kinds of costs that would be incurred:**

• **Quantitative description of impact:**

Iowa's law enforcement officers, reserve officers, jail administrators, jailers, public safety telecommunicators, Academy staff instructors, and other professional partners will benefit from updated eligibility and minimum qualification requirements for endorsements from the Council designed to comply with current law enforcement standards.

• **Qualitative description of impact:**

The public will benefit from law enforcement officers, reserve officers, jail administrators, jailers, public safety telecommunicators, Academy staff instructors, and other professional partners having access to updated eligibility and qualification requirements for endorsements developed to comply with current law enforcement standards.

**3. Costs to the State:**

• **Implementation and enforcement costs borne by the agency or any other agency:**

Individuals seeking endorsements from the Council, or their employers, will continue to bear the costs of necessary coursework to seek endorsements, just as they historically have borne this cost.

• **Anticipated effect on State revenues:**

This proposed rulemaking has no anticipated impact on State revenues.

**4. Comparison of the costs and benefits of the proposed rulemaking to the costs and benefits of inaction:**

This proposed rulemaking creates separate categories of endorsements in Chapter 5 and allows the eligibility and requirements for each endorsement category to be specific, eliminating unnecessary requirements.

**5. Determination whether less costly methods or less intrusive methods exist for achieving the purpose of the proposed rulemaking:**

This proposed rulemaking has been streamlined, clarified, and made less restrictive where possible in accordance with the goals and directives of Executive Order 10.

**6. Alternative methods considered by the agency:**

• **Description of any alternative methods that were seriously considered by the agency:**

No alternative methods were considered.

• **Reasons why alternative methods were rejected in favor of the proposed rulemaking:**

Not applicable.

*Small Business Impact*

**If the rulemaking will have a substantial impact on small business, include a discussion of whether it would be feasible and practicable to do any of the following to reduce the impact of the rulemaking on small business:**

• Establish less stringent compliance or reporting requirements in the rulemaking for small business.

• Establish less stringent schedules or deadlines in the rulemaking for compliance or reporting requirements for small business.

• Consolidate or simplify the rulemaking's compliance or reporting requirements for small business.

• Establish performance standards to replace design or operational standards in the rulemaking for small business.

• Exempt small business from any or all requirements of the rulemaking.

**If legal and feasible, how does the rulemaking use a method discussed above to reduce the substantial impact on small business?**

The proposed rulemaking does not have a substantial impact on small business. This rulemaking does not establish design or operational standards.

*Text of Proposed Rulemaking*

ITEM 1. Rescind 501—Chapter 5 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 5  
ENDORSEMENTS

PRACTICAL SKILLS INSTRUCTOR ENDORSEMENTS

**501—5.1(80B,80D) Practical skills instructor endorsements.** All individuals providing practical instruction at the academy or through approved local and area schools and regional training centers will have the necessary practical instructor endorsement as determined by the director.

**5.1(1) Academy staff instructor endorsement.** Academy staff instructors are eligible for endorsements in the areas of instruction for which they are qualified.

**5.1(2) Practical skills instructor endorsement level I.** Certified Iowa law enforcement officers are eligible for specialty endorsements for firearms, rifle, standard field sobriety testing, driving, RADAR/LiDAR, and bicycle.

**5.1(3) Practical skills instructor endorsement level II.** Certified Iowa law enforcement officers, Iowa correctional officers, Iowa jailers, and Iowa jail administrators are eligible for endorsements for defensive tactics and chemical spray.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 80B.11(1) “k,” 80B.11A, and 80D.4A.

**501—5.2(80B,80D) Minimum qualifications for practical skills instructor endorsements.**

**5.2(1) Academy staff instructors.** Academy staff instructors will meet the minimum experience and training for each endorsement area except active employment by a law enforcement agency.

**5.2(2) Practical skills instructor endorsements level I.** Minimum experience and training includes:

- a. Three years of experience as a certified law enforcement officer with specialized knowledge or skill in the subject area to be instructed;
- b. Being actively employed in good standing by an Iowa law enforcement agency, the Iowa department of corrections, or a council-approved regional training center; and
- c. Successful completion of the applicable endorsement training course, including instructor development.

**5.2(3) Practical skills instructor endorsements level II.** Minimum experience and training includes:

- a. Three years of experience as a certified law enforcement officer or three years post-basic training course with specialized knowledge or skill in the subject area to be instructed;
- b. Being actively employed in good standing by an Iowa law enforcement agency, the Iowa department of corrections, or a council-approved regional training center; and
- c. Successful completion of the applicable endorsement training course, including instructor development.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 80B.11(1) “k,” 80B.11A, and 80D.4A.

**501—5.3(80B,80D) Prerequisites for practical skills instructor endorsements.** The following prerequisites will be met before enrollment in a practical skills instructor endorsement course.

**5.3(1) Firearms instructor endorsement.** A qualification score of at least 90 percent on an academy-approved course of fire in the last 12 months.

**5.3(2) Rifle instructor endorsement.** An endorsement as a firearms instructor that must be maintained to retain a rifle instructor endorsement and a qualification score of at least 90 percent on an academy-approved course of fire in the last 12 months.

**5.3(3) *Defensive tactics instructor endorsement.*** Iowa correctional officers, Iowa jailers, and Iowa jail administrators will provide documentation of 36 hours of training in defensive tactics from an active instructor with a defensive tactics instructor endorsement.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 80B.11(1) “k,” 80B.11A, and 80D.4A.

**501—5.4(17A,80B,80D) Award of practical skills instructor endorsements.**

**5.4(1) *Awarding of endorsement.*** Applicants meeting all minimum qualifications may register for a practical skills instructor endorsement training course. The practical skills instructor endorsement will be awarded upon the successful completion of the instructor endorsement course.

**5.4(2) *Denial of endorsement.*** If an applicant fails to earn a practical skills instructor endorsement after completion of the instructor endorsement course and any allowed remediation, the applicant may file a written notice of appeal to the council within 30 days of the denial as set forth in rule 7—2506.4(17A). A hearing will be held by the council within 90 days of the receipt of the appeal.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 17A.12, 80B.11(1) “k,” 80B.11A, and 80D.4A.

**501—5.5(80B,80D) Practical skills instructor endorsement period.** All endorsements will be issued through the end of the third calendar year. An endorsement may be renewed if an applicant is actively employed by an Iowa law enforcement agency, the Iowa department of corrections, or a council-approved regional training center; remains in good standing; and successfully completes the applicable instructor renewal course prior to the expiration of the endorsement. Failure to renew prior to expiration will require an applicant to earn a new endorsement.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 80B.11(1) “k,” 80B.11A, and 80D.4A.

CONTENT INSTRUCTOR ENDORSEMENTS

**501—5.6(80B,80D) Content instructor endorsements.** Certified law enforcement officers, jailers, jail administrators, public safety telecommunicators, or other individuals providing instruction at the academy or through approved local or area schools, regional training centers, or a basic training course on subjects requiring a specialized academic degree, training, licensure, or experience will have the necessary instructor endorsement as determined by the director, subject to council approval.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 80B.11(1) “j” and “k,” 80B.11A, and 80D.4A.

**501—5.7(80B,80D) Minimum qualifications for content instructor endorsements.** Minimum experience by profession includes successful completion of an instructor development course through the academy and the following:

**5.7(1)** Certified law enforcement officer. Three years of certified experience, aptitude or experience in the subject area to be instructed, and confirmation from the academy or a current license or training entity endorsement, if relevant.

**5.7(2)** Jail administrator or jailer. Three years of experience post completion of the basic training course, aptitude or experience in the subject area to be instructed, and confirmation from the academy or a current license or training entity endorsement, if relevant.

**5.7(3)** Public safety telecommunicator. Three years of experience post completion of the basic training course and aptitude or experience in the subject area to be instructed.

**5.7(4)** Professionals. Successful completion of relevant training or at least a baccalaureate degree in the subject area or a related field unless further education is required; confirmation by the academy of a current license or certification in the subject area; and appropriate reputation, conduct, stability and ability.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 80B.11(1) “j” and “k,” 80B.11A, and 80D.4A.

**501—5.8(80B,80D) Prerequisites for certain content instructor endorsements.** The following prerequisites will be met before the award of a content instructor endorsement in the following subject areas:

**5.8(1)** Arson and bombing content instructor endorsement. Completion of a specialty school in police/military explosives handling and a recognized arson school.

**5.8(2)** Collision investigation content instructor endorsement. Completion of a two-week collision investigation school at the academy or an equivalent training approved by the academy.

**5.8(3)** Fingerprint content instructor endorsement. Completion of the basic and advanced Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint schools or an equivalent training approved by the academy.

**5.8(4)** Drug recognition content instructor endorsement. Identified as an instructor in the Iowa drug recognition experts and instructor directory.

**5.8(5)** Evidentiary breath testing device content instructor endorsement. Completion of a training program that results in trainer designation in the technology to be taught in the course.

**5.8(6)** Tactical medicine instructor endorsement. Completion of a course in tactical medicine approved by the academy or maintenance of a current emergency medical care provider or higher level of medical certification.

**5.8(7)** Less lethal instructor endorsement. Completion of a course approved by the academy in less lethal training.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 80B.11(1)“j” and “k,” 80B.11A, and 80D.4A.

**501—5.9(17A,80B,80D) Application for content instructor endorsement.** Applicants seeking a content instructor endorsement(s) will submit an application to the council.

**5.9(1)** *Granting of endorsement.* Approval for a content instructor endorsement will be granted at the discretion of the council and evaluated on meeting minimum education, background, training, and experience.

**5.9(2)** *Denial of endorsement.* If the council denies an application for a content instructor endorsement, the applicant may file a written notice of appeal to the council within 30 days of the denial as set forth in rule 7—2506.4(17A). A hearing will be held by the council within 90 days of the receipt of the appeal.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 17A.12, 80B.11(1)“j” and “k,” 80B.11A, and 80D.4A.

**501—5.10(80B,80D) Content instructor endorsement period.** All endorsements will be issued for a period of three years. An endorsement may be renewed if an applicant remains in good standing; completes a one-hour, in-person or online instructor development course; and submits a renewal application to the council. Failure to renew prior to expiration will require an applicant to earn a new endorsement.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 80B.11(1)“j” and “k,” 80B.11A, and 80D.4A.

#### OTHER ENDORSEMENTS

**501—5.11(80B,80D) Other endorsements.**

**5.11(1)** *Salvage theft examiner endorsement.* The endorsement for certified Iowa law enforcement officers performing salvage theft examinations.

**5.11(2)** *H.R. 218 qualification endorsement.* The endorsement for federal law enforcement agents or officers performing H.R. 218 qualifications for retired qualified law enforcement officers.

**5.11(3)** *Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (LEOSA)/H.R. 218 endorsement.* The endorsement for retired qualified law enforcement officers to carry concealed firearms.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 80B.11(1)“k,” 80B.11A, 80D.4A, and 321.52(4)“d.”

**501—5.12(80B,80D) Minimum qualifications for other endorsements.**

**5.12(1)** *Salvage theft examiner endorsement.* Minimum qualifications include certification as a law enforcement officer employed by an agency participating in the salvage vehicle theft examination program.

**5.12(2)** *H.R. 218 qualification endorsement.* Minimum qualifications include having an academy firearms instructor endorsement or active approval as a firearms instructor from a federal law enforcement agency or the federal law enforcement training center.

**5.12(3)** *LEOSA/H.R. 218 endorsement.* Minimum qualifications include a signed academy questionnaire and successful completion of the academy qualification course.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 80B.11(1)“k,” 80B.11A, 80D.4A, and 321.52(4)“d.”

**501—5.13(80B,80D) Award of other endorsements.**

**5.13(1)** *Salvage theft examiner endorsement.* Applicants meeting minimum qualifications for the endorsements may register for an approved salvage vehicle theft examination training course. The endorsement will be awarded upon the successful completion of the course.

**5.13(2)** *H.R. 218 qualification endorsement.* Applicants meeting the minimum qualifications will receive the endorsement upon confirmation by the academy.

**5.13(3)** *LEOSA/H.R. 218 endorsement.* Applicants meeting the minimum qualifications will receive the endorsement upon the presentation of an approved academy questionnaire and successful completion of the academy qualification course.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 80B.11(1)“k,” 80B.11A, 80D.4A, and 321.52(4)“d.”

**501—5.14(17A,80B,80D) Denial of other endorsements.** If an applicant fails to earn an endorsement for which they meet minimum qualifications and have successfully completed all requirements, the applicant may file a written notice of appeal to the council within 30 days of the denial as set forth in rule 7—2506.4(17A). A hearing will be held by the council within 90 days of the receipt of the appeal.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 17A.12, 80B.11(1)“k,” 80B.11A, 80D.4A, and 321.52(4)“d.”

**501—5.15(80B,80D) Other endorsement period.** Other endorsements include the following.

**5.15(1)** *Salvage theft examiner endorsement.*

*a.* The endorsement will be issued for a period of three years.

*b.* An endorsement may be renewed if an applicant remains in good standing and successfully completes an approved four-hour salvage vehicle theft refresher course prior to expiration of the endorsement. Failure to renew prior to expiration will require an applicant to earn a new endorsement.

**5.15(2)** *H.R. 218 qualification endorsement.*

*a.* The endorsement will be issued for a corresponding time period as the active firearms instructor approval or a maximum period of three years.

*b.* An endorsement may be renewed if an applicant remains in good standing and submits documentation of active firearms instructor approval prior to expiration of the endorsement.

**5.15(3)** *LEOSA/H.R. 218.* The endorsement will be issued for a period of one year.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 80B.11(1)“k,” 80B.11A, 80D.4A, and 321.52(4)“d.”

ALL ENDORSEMENTS

**501—5.16(17A,80B,80D) Revocation or suspension of any endorsement.** Any endorsement may be revoked or suspended in writing at the discretion of the council or director, subject to subsequent council approval. The individual may file a written notice of appeal to the council within 30 days

of the revocation or suspension as set forth in rule 7—2506.4(17A). A hearing will be held by the council within 90 days of the receipt of the appeal.

**5.16(1)** *Good standing.* Good standing determination is at the sole discretion of the council or director, subject to subsequent council approval. A person who has been dismissed for good cause from previous employment; who leaves, voluntarily quits, or whose position is eliminated when disciplinary action was imminent or pending that could have resulted in removal for good cause; who has had a probable cause finding in the disciplinary process; who has engaged in dishonorable conduct; or who has been disciplined for a concern involving the subject area of the endorsement is not considered to be in good standing.

**5.16(2)** *Responsibility for areas of instruction and proper endorsement.* It is the personal responsibility of the instructor to ensure that the instructor is only providing instruction for topics that the instructor is endorsed to instruct. Failure to adhere to this provision is a basis for revocation or suspension of instructor endorsements.

**5.16(3)** *Contested cases.* If the revocation or suspension of an endorsement relates to a contested case, the matters will be heard together.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 17A.12, 80B.11(1) “k,” 80B.11A, 80D.4A, and 321.52(4) “d.”