

## LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY[501]

### Regulatory Analysis

Notice of Intended Action to be published: 501—Chapter 9  
“Jailer Standards”

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

### *Public Hearing*

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

July 15, 2026  
9 to 10 a.m.

In person: 7105 NW 70th Avenue  
Burma Road, Building A41  
Johnston, Iowa  
Online: [us06web.zoom.us/j/81468082578](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81468082578)

### *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 15, 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 9 describes the minimum hiring and training standards and required professional development for jailers and temporary holding facility personnel. 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 sheriffs, jailers, jail administrators, and temporary holding facility personnel by clearly defining the minimum standards for hiring and training jailers and temporary holding facility personnel and requirements for their professional development.

**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 sheriffs, jailers, jail administrators, and temporary holding facility personnel will benefit from updated hiring and training processes. The new format also allows the jailer basic training course to be kept in alignment with current jailer standards and best practices.

- **Qualitative description of impact:**

Sheriffs, jailers, jail administrators, temporary holding facility personnel, and the public will benefit from minimum hiring and training standards for jailers and temporary holding facility personnel.

3. **Costs to the State:**

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

Individuals attending the required training course, or their employers, will bear the costs of the training course, as they always have.

- **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 streamlines Chapter 9 and eliminates unnecessary burdens.

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 9 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 9  
JAILER STANDARDS

**501—9.1(80B) Minimum standards for jail and temporary holding facility personnel.**

**9.1(1) *Minimum hiring standards.*** Applicants must meet the following minimum standards before serving as a jail administrator, jailer, or temporary holding facility personnel:

- a. Be 18 years of age or older.
- b. Be able to read and write in English.
- c. Be of good moral character as determined by a thorough background investigation, including a fingerprint search conducted of local, state and national fingerprint files.
- d. Be not by reason of conscience or belief opposed to the use of force when appropriate or necessary to fulfill the person's duties.
- e. Have the ability to perform the essential elements of the position as defined in department job specifications.
- f. Be an appropriate candidate for employment as demonstrated by qualified psychological screening.

**9.1(2) *Minimum retention standards.*** An employee who has demonstrated inappropriate action beyond a reasonable degree, who is not psychologically fit for jail employment, or who has repeatedly failed to observe these rules will not be retained.

**9.1(3) *Conflict of interest.*** A person working in a jail will not transact any business with a prisoner, nor arrange any business transaction with a prisoner through another party. The jail will have a written code of ethics that the jail provides to all employees. At a minimum, the code will:

- a. Prohibit staff from using their official positions to secure privileges for themselves or others.
- b. Prohibit staff from engaging in activities that constitute a conflict of interest.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 80B.11A and 80B.13(3).

**501—9.2(80B) Time to complete basic training course for jailers.**

**9.2(1) *Jail administrators.*** All jail administrators will successfully complete an approved basic training course within six months of appointment.

**9.2(2) *Jailers.*** All jailers will successfully complete an approved basic training course within one year of employment or assignment.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 80B.11A.

**501—9.3(80B) Qualifications for reciprocity.** An individual employed within the 12-month period immediately preceding application, working full-time in a jail or a prison for one year may apply for reciprocity. In determining whether to grant reciprocity, the council will consider whether the individual completed a comparable training course and any other relevant information received by the council.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 80B.11A.

**501—9.4(80B) Minimum standards for jailer basic training course.** A basic training course will consist of at least 40 hours, including a summative written assessment and a minimum of 8 hours of practical application, and will be provided by approved instructors.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 80B.11(1) "k" and 80B.11A.

**501—9.5(80B) Jailer basic training curriculum.** An academy-aligned training curriculum for a basic training course will be initially approved by the director and confirmed by the council. The curriculum will include but is not limited to:

**9.5(1) Core concepts.**

- a. Roles and responsibilities.
- b. Legal concepts, including references to the Iowa Code, jail standards, and relevant case law.
- c. Suicide prevention/mental illness.
- d. Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA).

**9.5(2) Core skills.**

- a. Communication and report writing.

b. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), automated external defibrillator (AED) use, and foreign body airway obstruction management for all age groups consistent with nationally recognized standards.

c. First aid; status as an emergency medical responder, licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, or medical practitioner; or holding other similar certification in the state of Iowa.

**9.5(3) Core competencies.**

a. Safety procedures.

b. Supervision duties.

c. Specialized services.

**9.5(4) Curriculum changes.** Changes to the council-approved curriculum or completion standards will be approved by the director.

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

**501—9.6(80B) Jailer professional development requirements.** The agency administrator will ensure compliance with professional development requirements for all jail personnel. All jail administrators and jailers will complete the following professional development:

**9.6(1) Annual professional development.**

a. Annual courses include a minimum of eight hours in:

(1) Suicide prevention/mental illness.

(2) PREA.

(3) Emergency evacuation plan.

(4) Legal concepts, including references to the Iowa Code, jail standards, and relevant case law

on:

1. Constitutional rights of inmates;

2. Iowa criminal law as applicable to a jail setting;

3. Affirmative duty to intervene/intercede; and

4. Use of force.

(5) Cultural awareness.

(6) Communication skills, including de-escalation.

b. Twelve hours of additional professional development to be selected by the jail administrator or sheriff, including methods of restraining violent inmates, intake procedures, and grievance and disciplinary procedures.

**9.6(2) Biennial professional development.**

a. CPR.

b. AED use.

c. Foreign body airway obstruction management.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 80B.11A.

**501—9.7(80B) Time to complete the basic training course for temporary holding facilities.** All appointed temporary holding facility administrators and designees will successfully complete an approved basic training course within one year of employment or assignment.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 80B.11A.

**501—9.8(80B) Temporary holding facility minimum standards for basic training course.** The basic training course will consist of at least ten hours, including a summative written assessment, and will be provided by approved instructors.

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

**501—9.9(80B) Temporary holding facility basic training curriculum.** An academy-aligned training curriculum for the ten-hour basic training course will be initially approved by the director and confirmed by the council. The curriculum will include but is not limited to:

**9.9(1) Core concepts.**

- a. Roles and responsibilities.
- b. Legal concepts, including references to the Iowa Code, jail standards, and relevant case law.
- c. Suicide prevention/mental illness.
- d. PREA.

**9.9(2) Core skills.**

- a. CPR, AED use, and foreign body airway obstruction management for all age groups consistent with nationally recognized standards.
- b. First aid; or status as an emergency medical responder, licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, or medical practitioner; or holding other similar certification in the state of Iowa.

**9.9(3) Core competencies. Safety procedures.**

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

**501—9.10(80B) Temporary holding facility professional development requirements.**

Administrators and supervisors of holding facilities will complete five hours of professional development, not including hours to maintain certification or proficiency in first aid, CPR, AED use, airway obstruction management, use of chemical agents, or handling of firearms. Annual professional development must be completed in the following areas:

- 1. Suicide prevention/mental illness.
- 2. Emergency evacuation plan.
- 3. PREA.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 80B.11A.

**501—9.11(80B) Professional development records.** The agency administrator will ensure that professional development records are regularly maintained and that the records are made available for inspection upon request of the council. Professional development records will include the following:

- 1. An overview of the training.
- 2. The name of the instructor who conducted the training.
- 3. The name of the individual who completed the training.
- 4. The length of the training.
- 5. The date and location where the training took place.
- 6. The scores achieved, if any, to show proficiency in or understanding of the subject matter.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 80B.11A.

**501—9.12(80B) Break in service.** A jail administrator or jailer who has had a break in service from employment as an Iowa jail administrator, jailer, or law enforcement officer will complete the following professional development within one year of hire:

**9.12(1)** If the break in service is from 12 months to three years, a minimum of 30 hours of professional development.

**9.12(2)** If the break in service is more than three years, a minimum of 40 hours of professional development.

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