

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

Department Name:	Transportation	Date:	08/14/25	Total Rule Count:	5
IAC #:	761	Chapter/ SubChapter/ Rule(s):	820	Iowa Code Section Authorizing Rule:	327G.15
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PLEASE NOTE, THE BOXES BELOW WILL EXPAND AS YOU TYPE

What is the intended benefit of the rule?

Chapter 820 is intended to comply with Iowa Code section 327G.15 governing the processing of claims to the Highway Grade Crossing Safety Fund. This chapter defines the eligibility for operating railroads to receive funds and provides an explanation of the reimbursement process, billing, and proration of claims to the Highway Grade Crossing Safety Fund. The Department adopts by date certain the 2025 Revision of the American Railway Engineering and Maintenance-of-Way Association (AREMA) Communications and Signals Manual. This manual defines an AAR Signal Unit value. This value is assigned to the component parts of an active warning device and is used to determine the number of eligible units for each railroad to submit for reimbursement to the Highway Grade Crossing Safety Fund. These rules ensure uniformity and consistency for the administration of the funds.

Is the benefit being achieved? Please provide evidence.

The benefit of the proposed rules is being achieved annually by the volume of applications for reimbursement exceeding the ability to reimburse the participants at the 75 percent maximum maintenance costs per claim and alternatively provide a reduced prorated amount instead that exhausts the funding available. Participation in the fund offsets annual maintenance costs of active warning devices ordered, agreed to be installed on or after July 1, 1973. All funds are expended annually from reimbursement requests processed.

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

There are no costs incurred by the public to comply with the rules.

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

Rules to process claims for the Highway Grade Crossing Safety Fund do not impose any costs beyond the underlying statute, which requires the Department to adopt rules providing eligibility and reimbursement guidance for operating railroads.

Do the costs justify the benefits achieved? Please explain.

Yes, the benefits of rules provide consistency in the processing of claims submitted annually. The costs of review and processing of claims are minimal, and the volume does not create a negative impact.

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 Department determined there was no less restrictive alternatives to rules. This chapter adopts a procedure to process claims from the Highway Grade Crossing Safety Fund according to Iowa Code sections 327G.15 and 327G.19.

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]

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820.1 removes unnecessary wording and unnecessarily restrictive terms.

820.2 removes unnecessary wording.

820.3 removes unnecessary wording.

820.4 removes unnecessary wording and unnecessarily restrictive terms.

820.5 removes unnecessary wording and unnecessarily restrictive terms.

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

820.2 Purpose. This rule is proposed to be reworded and moved to rule 820.1.

820.3 Information and submissions. This rule is proposed to be reworded and moved to rule 820.1.

820.5 Reimbursement. This rule is proposed to be reworded and moved to new renumbered 820.2.

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

820.1

820.2

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

METRICS

Total number of rules repealed:	3
Proposed word count reduction after repeal and/or re-promulgation	31
Proposed number of restrictive terms eliminated after repeal and/or re-promulgation	14

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

No.