

Motor Vehicle Division Informational Memo # 23-01

Administrative Rule Updates for Emergency Vehicle Certificates

DATE: March 16, 2023
FROM: Kelli Huser, Compliance Officer, MVD
TO: All Motor Vehicle Division staff

SUBJECT

This informational memo explains an update to administrative rule chapter 761—451, Emergency Vehicle Certificates.

SUMMARY

This rule making conforms Chapter 451 with 2022 Iowa Acts, Senate File 333. This legislation adds the following to the list of vehicles eligible under Iowa Code section 321.451 for a certificate of designation as an authorized emergency vehicle by the Department:

1. A vehicle privately owned by a certified chief or certified fire officer of a volunteer fire department, a fire department comprised of volunteer and paid members, or a nonprofit corporation delivering emergency services to a municipality under contract. The owner of the vehicle must provide proof of certification as a fire officer.
2. A vehicle privately owned by a chief, medical director, or certified medical provider of an authorized emergency medical service.

Prior to the Department approving an application, additional requirements for these categories of vehicles include that the owner must have completed an emergency vehicle operations course approved by either the Fire Service Training Bureau or the Department of Public Health as applicable, and that the owner must provide proof of financial liability coverage or risk pool coverage.

These amendments provide that a person seeking an authorized emergency vehicle certificate must meet the requirements set forth under Iowa Code section 321.451 as amended by Senate File 333, section. In addition these amendments expand the permitted operations of an authorized emergency vehicle to allow the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle to operate the vehicle during parades, events and funeral processions as identified in newly enacted Iowa Code sections 321.231A and 321.324A.

These amendments also align the Department's authority to deny an application or revoke a certificate of designation with the amended and additional requirements for operation of an authorized emergency vehicle.

The administrative rule amendments were effective March 15, 2023.

LINK TO ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/aco/arc/6845C.pdf>

CURRENT

Under current law, administrative rule chapter 761—451 did not address the changes to the certificate of designation as an authorized emergency vehicle from 2022 Iowa Acts, Senate File 333. However, based on the 2022 legislative changes, we have already changed our processes.

You may wish to review the previous informational memo (IM 22-11) we issued when the 2022 legislation became effective for more information about the background of the legislation.

For internal DOT employees, you may find IM 22-11 in the W drive at the address below:

W:\MotorVehicle\Memorandums\Administrative rules-vehicle

For County Treasurers and staff, you may find IM 22-11 at the link to the county treasurer's manual below:

<https://iowadot.gov/mvd/ctmanual/memos/IM-22-11.pdf>

NEW

As of March 15, 2023, the rules will align with Iowa Code and our current processes.

BUSINESS IMPACT

This directive does not impact the way that Motor Vehicle Division operates as we have already updated our processes to implement the changes to the certificate of designation as an authorized emergency vehicle. Rather this directive is just informing you that the administrative rules have now been updated.