

PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT[661]

Regulatory Analysis

Notice of Intended Action to be published: 661—Chapter 83
“Iowa Sex Offender Registry”

Iowa Code section(s) or chapter(s) authorizing rulemaking: 692A.130

State or federal law(s) implemented by the rulemaking: Iowa Code chapter 692A

Public Hearing

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

September 8, 2026
3 to 3:30 p.m.

Public Conference Room 125
Oran Pape State Office Building
Des Moines, Iowa

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written comments concerning this Regulatory Analysis, which must be received by the Department of Public Safety no later than 4:30 p.m. on the date of the public hearing. Comments should be directed to:

Josie Wagler
215 East 7th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
Email: wagler@dps.state.ia.us

Purpose and Summary

Pursuant to Executive Order 10, the Department proposes to rescind Chapter 83 and adopt a new chapter in lieu thereof. The chapter outlines forms and registration and verification procedures prescribed for use with the Iowa Sex Offender Registry (SOR).

This rulemaking also makes conforming changes pursuant to 2026 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2379.

Analysis of Impact

1. Persons affected by the proposed rulemaking:

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

Any person who is required to register as a sex offender under Iowa Code chapter 692A will bear the costs.

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

The general public will benefit.

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:**

Pursuant to Iowa Code section 692A.110, a sex offender must pay an annual fee of \$25 to the sheriff of the county of principal residence.

• **Qualitative description of impact:**

The offender is required to register, report changes in relevant information, and periodically verify relevant information to the sheriff of principal residence using appropriate forms outlined in this chapter.

3. Costs to the State:

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

None.

- **Anticipated effect on State revenues:**

There is no anticipated effect on State revenues.

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

The Department has consistently achieved no more than 2 percent of total registrants whose whereabouts are unknown. This is in part due to the robust registration and verification procedure implemented by this chapter.

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

The Department has determined this to be the least costly and least intrusive method for achieving the purpose of the proposed rulemaking.

6. Alternative methods considered by the agency:

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

None were identified.

- **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?

There is no substantial impact on small business.

Text of Proposed Rulemaking

ITEM 1. Rescind 661—Chapter 83 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 83
IOWA SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY

661—83.1(692A) Sex offender registry established. The Iowa sex offender registry, as authorized by Iowa Code chapter 692A, is hereby established in the division of criminal investigation.

661—83.2(692A) Definitions. The definitions in Iowa Code section 692A.101 are adopted and incorporated herein.

661—83.3(692A) Forms and procedures. The following forms and procedures are prescribed for use with the Iowa sex offender registry. Supplies of these forms may be obtained by contacting the Iowa sex offender registry at the division of criminal investigation.

83.3(1) Notification. Form DCI-144, Notification of Registration Requirement, which notifies offenders of their duty to register with the Iowa sex offender registry, shall be provided, in printed form or electronically, to persons identified as being required to register. Failure to provide offenders with Form DCI-144 does not relieve offenders of their duty to register with the Iowa sex offender registry.

83.3(2) Registration.

a. Form DCI-145 or Form DCI-144R, Sex Offender Registration, shall be completed, as required by Iowa Code section 692A.104, on behalf of each offender and submitted, in printed or electronic form, to the sheriff of each county in which the offender will be residing, employed, or attending classes and to the division of criminal investigation, in order to satisfy the registration requirements of the Iowa sex offender registry. This form shall also be completed on behalf of each offender and submitted to the sheriff of any county in which the offender will be a student, be employed, or be engaged in a vocation on a full-time or part-time basis, to satisfy the registration requirements.

b. Form DCI-145, or information stored by the division of criminal investigation, shall be used to report changes to relevant information. Form DCI-145 shall be completed and submitted by the registrant to the sheriff of any county of residence each time the registrant's relevant information changes. Form DCI-145 shall be completed and submitted by the registrant to the sheriff of the county in which the registrant is a student, an employee, or practicing a vocation on a full-time or part-time basis at an institution of higher education within three days of the registrant's becoming a student, an employee, or engaged in a vocation at the institution of higher education. The original of each completed Form DCI-145 shall be forwarded to the division of criminal investigation by the registering agency within five days of receiving the completed form.

When the department receives notification that a registrant has changed residence to a location outside of Iowa, the department shall notify the registering state agency in the registrant's new state of residence of the registrant's name, new address, and telephone number. Upon notification of the appropriate out-of-state agency, the department shall remove the registrant from the active registry, unless the registrant continues to maintain a residence or place of employment in Iowa or attends school in Iowa. The registrant shall not be required to submit periodic verifications of address while not on the active registry. The department shall maintain the registrant's file in the event the registrant establishes a residence in Iowa or becomes a student, becomes an employee, or practices a vocation at an institution of higher education in Iowa in the future. The department may also maintain the file for any other purpose.

c. Upon any submission of Form DCI-145, the form shall be accompanied by current photographs and fingerprints of the offender.

d. A list of all registrants within a county may be provided by the division of criminal investigation to the county sheriff.

83.3(3) Periodic verification. A registrant shall appear personally in the office of the sheriff of the county or counties of principal residence periodically as required by Iowa Code section 692A.108 to verify relevant information. A tier I offender shall appear annually, or more frequently if required by the sheriff; a tier II offender shall appear every six months, or more frequently if required by the sheriff; and a tier III offender shall appear every three months, or more frequently if required by the sheriff. Form DCI-146R, Periodic Verification Notification Form, shall be mailed by the division of criminal investigation to each registrant at the last address known to the registry at least 30 days prior to each required appearance. The registrant shall appear between the first and last day of the

verification month. Form DCI-146R shall clearly state that it is to be returned to the division of criminal investigation if the addressee no longer resides at the address indicated and that Iowa law prohibits its being forwarded.

a. Each registrant shall report to the sheriff of the county of principal residence of the registrant. The sheriff shall take a current photograph of the registrant and shall submit the photograph to the registry.

b. The sheriff of any county of residence of a registrant may, at any time, instruct the registrant to report to the sheriff's office for the purpose of the taking of a current photograph. Such instructions shall be mailed to the registrant at the registrant's current address of registration. The registrant shall report to the sheriff's office within ten days of receiving such instructions. The sheriff shall submit the current photograph of the registrant to the registry.

83.3(4) *Updating relevant information not requiring personal appearance.* Any change in any item of relevant information other than changes of address, places of attendance as a student, places of employment, or vehicle information shall be communicated to the sheriff of the county of the registrant's principal residence in person, by telephone, or electronically, within three days of the change occurring. Any such change shall not be deemed to be completed until the registrant has received acknowledgment from the office receiving the change in printed or electronic form.

83.3(5) *Application for determination.* Form DCI-148, Application for Determination, shall be completed by a person to initiate a request that the department review whether one or more offenses of which the person has been convicted require registration with the Iowa sex offender registry, whether the time period during which the person is required to register has expired, whether the person is exempt from the placement of information on the sex offender registry website, and the tier placement of the offender. A person who submits a completed copy of Form DCI-148 for review shall provide with it copies of any sentencing or adjudicatory orders related to each offense for which a determination of whether registration is required is being requested. The completed application (Form DCI-148) shall specify the exact grounds for the application and include a statement of any additional facts or law that the person intends to present to the department in support of the application. Failure to submit any of the required information shall constitute grounds for denial of the application. If the application sets forth an issue of fact that cannot be evaluated based upon the record of convictions, sentencing and adjudicatory orders, relevant statutory provisions, and other records provided, and is material to the determination, the commissioner may refer the matter to an administrative law judge or presiding officer for a contested case hearing.

NOTE: Filing an application for determination does not excuse a person from having to comply with any of the applicable provisions of Iowa Code chapter 692A during the period prior to the issuance of the decision of determination.

83.3(6) *Decision of determination.*

a. Form DCI-149, Decision of Determination, shall be used by the division of criminal investigation to notify a person who has submitted an application for determination (Form DCI-148) of the results of that review. A completed Form DCI-149 shall be mailed to any person who has filed a completed Form DCI-148 within 90 days of the receipt by the division of criminal investigation of the completed Form DCI-148 and all required supporting documents. A decision of determination shall be signed by the commissioner and shall constitute final agency action for the purposes of Iowa Code chapter 17A.

b. If an administrative law judge or presiding officer has been assigned to hold a hearing regarding an application for determination, the administrative law judge or presiding officer shall prepare a proposed decision of determination. The proposed decision of determination shall be reviewed by the commissioner, who may uphold or modify the proposed decision of determination and shall then sign a final decision of determination. The final decision of determination shall constitute final agency action for the purposes of Iowa Code chapter 17A.

83.3(7) *Request for information.* Requests for information about whether a specific individual is registered shall be made to a county sheriff or local police department and may be made in person, by telephone, or in writing.

83.3(8) *Confidential records.* Completed forms filled out pursuant to rules 661—83.1(692A) through 661—83.5(692A) are confidential records that shall not be released to the public.

661—83.4(692A) Availability of records.

83.4(1) *Sex offender registry website.* The department shall place information regarding each registrant on the registry website (www.iowasexoffender.gov), except that information regarding any registrant for whom the sole basis of registration is a conviction or convictions for a violation or violations of Iowa Code section 709.4(1)“b”(2)(d), and whose offense was committed when the offender was under 20 years of age, shall not be placed on the website. Information regarding a registrant placed on the sex offender registry website may include any relevant information allowed under Iowa Code section 692A.121.

83.4(2) *List of registrants in county.* Any county sheriff shall provide access to the list of all registrants within the county in which the sheriff has jurisdiction to any person who requests such a list; however, records of persons protected under 18 U.S.C. Section 3521 shall not be disclosed.

83.4(3) *Release of information in response to individual request.* A sheriff or police department that receives a request for information about whether a specific individual is registered or not shall inquire of the division of criminal investigation via the Iowa on-line warrants and articles (IOWA) system or the sex offender registry application (SORA) as to whether the person about whom information was requested is registered with the Iowa sex offender registry. If the division of criminal investigation notifies the sheriff or police department that the person about whom the inquiry is made is not on the registry, the sheriff or police department shall so notify the person who submitted the request. If the division of criminal investigation notifies the sheriff or police department that the person about whom the inquiry was made is a registrant with the Iowa sex offender registry, the sheriff or police department shall notify the person making the inquiry that the person about whom the inquiry was made is a registrant and may provide the requester with the relevant information allowed under Iowa Code section 692A.121 regarding the registrant.

83.4(4) *Submission of information to the National Sex Offender Registry.* The division shall submit sex offender registry data as required to the National Sex Offender Registry of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

83.4(5) *Single contact repository.* The division shall perform a search of the sex offender registry for information about an individual, based on a request submitted through the single contact repository established pursuant to Iowa Code section 135C.33. The information provided from the registry shall be limited to whether the identified person is registered.

83.4(6) *No identification of victims.* Any release of information regarding any registrant, other than to criminal or juvenile justice agencies, shall not identify any victim of the registrant.

661—83.5(692A) Expungement of records.

83.5(1) *Expungement upon reversal of conviction.* Upon receipt of a certified copy of a court order reversing a conviction that forms the basis for a registrant’s being required to register, the division of criminal investigation shall expunge the registration, provided that the registrant has been convicted of no other offense requiring registration.

83.5(2) *Expungement upon expiration of registration period.* The division of criminal investigation shall expunge a registrant’s registration upon expiration of the period during which the registrant is required to register, provided that the registrant has not subsequently been convicted of an offense that would require registration.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 692A.