Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System (ISICS)
Standards, Protocols, Procedures

ISICS Standard:	**Standard #:**	1.7.0
Minimum Programming Requirements	Date Adopted:	07/12/2018
	Date Reviewed:	11/13/2025
	Version:	2.0

1. Purpose or Objective

The purpose of this standard is to establish minimum programming requirements for subscriber radios and consoles.

2. Technical Background

- **Capabilities**

  The ISICS Platform provides a number of local, regional, and statewide resources for interoperable communications which allows for multiple events to occur simultaneously without interference with each other. In theory, subscriber radios that program to minimum programming requirement will have the needed interoperable resource at any given event they respond to in Iowa no matter the region, if all responders are utilizing the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communication System.

  All of Iowa's Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) are approved ISICS Level 1 interoperability users and have access to an ISICS consolette with ISICS interoperable resources. The PSAPs should be able to make patches into ISICS when necessary.

Constraints

Subscriber radios that do not follow minimum programming requirements may not have the needed resources at any given event they respond to.

For consoles and subscriber radios to be effective, programming must be consistent and follow proven guidelines.

3. Operational Context

Consistent programming will facilitate interoperable communications during the vast majority of scenarios.

4. Recommended Protocol/Standard

- **Consoles**:
  - Communication centers with full connectivity to ISICS will program their regional talkgroups in addition to adjacent regional and the statewide interoperability talkgroups.

- **Control Stations:**
  - Communication centers using only control stations to connect to ISICS will at a minimum program their regional talkgroups and the statewide interoperability talkgroups.

- **Subscriber Radios:**
  - Subscriber radios connecting to ISICS will program all sub-regional talkgroups, regional talkgroups, and the statewide interoperability talkgroups.
  - Subscriber radios connecting to ISICS will be programmed with all channels consistent with ISICSB ICS-217A based on FCC rules and their agency's radio capabilities.

- **System Administrator:**
  - The System Administrator or designee will ensure that seed code plugs are current for public safety and public service radio equipment.

5. Recommended Procedure

Upon successful application to ISICS, the user shall provide an advanced system key that will be provisioned by the System Administrator or designee. That system key shall include permissions for programming all statewide and regional, and sub-regional interoperability talkgroups.

The System Administrator or designee will then ship the system key to the applying entity or the listed programming vendor. Tracking and delivery confirmation must be included in the shipping process.

6. Management

The System Administrator will maintain records of all system keys provisioned for entities consistent with current records retention policies.