

Red Tape Review Rule Report (Due: September 1, 2023)

Department Name:	Health & Human Services (HHS)	Date:	9/1/2023	Total Rule Count:	4
IAC #:	441	Chapter/ SubChapter/ Rule(s):	203	Iowa Code Section Authorizing Rule:	232.119
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PLEASE NOTE, THE BOXES BELOW WILL EXPAND AS YOU TYPE

What is the intended benefit of the rule?

This rule chapter seeks to increase access to adoptive arrangements by creating the Iowa Adoption Exchange, a streamlined system of matching children available for adoption with potential adoptive homes. Matches are managed through a computerized statewide exchange system.

Children under the guardianship of HHS for whom an adoptive home is not available are entered on the exchange within 60 or 90 days of receipt of termination of parental rights. Children under the guardianship of a licensed child-placing agency whose parental rights have been terminated may be registered on the exchange at any time. Approved families wishing to adopt are entered on the exchange by HHS or a licensed child-placing agency.

Is the benefit being achieved? Please provide evidence.

Figures below are actuals incurred in the fiscal years shown.

Identified Impacts*

	SFY2018	SFY2019	SFY2020	SFY2021	SFY2022	5 Year Total
Costs						
None Identified						
Benefits						
Improved Outcomes for Adopted Children	Qualitative	Qualitative	Qualitative	Qualitative	Qualitative	Qualitative
Net Value	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

*All monetary figures have been rounded to the nearest thousandth.

The adoption exchange seeks to find loving adoptive families for often the longest-waiting children in the foster care system. Over the last five state fiscal years, 5,400 adoptions have occurred out of Iowa’s child welfare/foster care system, averaging over 1,000 each year. The adoption exchange helps to support adoption finalization in Iowa.

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

None identified.

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

None identified.

Do the costs justify the benefits achieved? Please explain.

The cost benefit analysis above shows improved outcomes for children in adoptive care. Eliminating the exchange is likely to reduce the number of adoptive arrangements available to qualified children seeking adoption. A lack of available adoptive relationships increases the likelihood of adverse impact to the child.

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.

HHS implements the Adoption Exchange in accordance with requirements of Iowa Code.

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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203.1
203.2
203.3
203.4

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

None identified.

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

203.1
203.2
203.3
203.4

****For rules being re-promulgated with changes, please attach a document with suggested changes, if available.***

METRICS

Total number of rules repealed:	0
Proposed word count reduction after repeal and/or re-promulgation	409
Proposed number of restrictive terms eliminated after repeal and/or re-promulgation	1

ARE THERE ANY RULES YOU WOULD RECOMMEND BE CODIFIED IN STATUTE?

None identified.

