

Administrative Rules Application
Request for Hosting Fees
Presented to IOWAccess Advisory Council
August 25, 2006

Goal: Our goal is to foster efficiency in state government and provide more public access to the citizens of Iowa. The new online claim service allows for citizens to be notified when specific rules are being filed, adopted, amended, or repealed. It provides a way for persons to keep a portfolio of often used rules to be kept and accessed more easily. It also tracks changes to rules and allows people to see where a rule change is in the change process and provides specific information about how a rule operates and the process of changing a rule and all the ways a citizen can participate in the administrative rules. The application also provides a way for agencies to work with the rules process electronically on the back end of the process.

Project Purpose: This online service makes it easier for Iowans to be notified and track changes to administrative rules that may affect their lives and businesses. It streamlines and improves the efficiency of the process of filing and publishing rules for both internal and external use.

Background: As part of the Governor's quality and efficiency in government initiative, state agencies requested that we look into using available technologies to help make their work more efficient. We began meeting with Iowa Interactive approximately 18 months ago and we have gone through many phases of development with a core group of agency contacts who volunteered to help develop the electronic filing system. We recently began training administrative rules personnel from state agencies on how to use the electronic filing system and we anticipate a full switch to electronic filing in September. We anticipate the public side of the portal will "go live" in October. The public side has various functions. One notable option will be to create a portfolio of often-referenced administrative rules. Another part allows the user to "sign-up" to receive e-mail notifications when a particular agency files a new rule and to allow the public to make comments and suggestions on a noticed rule. Prior to the new service, interested citizens needed to subscribe to services that provided access to various administrative rules, or do a personal search, at greater cost in time and convenience, with a possibility of missing an important rules revision.

Request: This is a request for the Board to approve \$3,000 to cover the costs of hosting this application within ITE for the next year.

Project Funds: The initial application is being developed by Iowa Interactive, and hosting costs incident to testing and development were initially absorbed by them.

Interested Parties: All agencies with rulemaking authority, the Governor's Office, Legislative Service Agency, lobbyists, the Administrative Rules Review Committee, and all citizens of Iowa.

Some of the Recipients of this Service: Citizens and businesses.