

**School Safety Program**  
**Dept. Of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing (DIAL) [State Fire Marshal] Guide**

**Notes**

- This is a working document and will be updated as needed.
  - This list is not all inclusive, it uses the six categories of capital improvements that are eligible for reimbursement to provide insight to whether something should be submitted to the Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing (DIAL)\* for approval. If there are questions please contact DIAL at [bcinfo@dps.state.ia.us](mailto:bcinfo@dps.state.ia.us)
    - The State Fire Marshal Division (SFMD) became a part of DIAL on 7/1/2023:
      - Building Code: <https://dial.iowa.gov/licenses/building/plan-review>
      - Fire Safety Bureau: <https://dial.iowa.gov/licenses/alarms-fire/fire-inspections>
  - For the listed items that are identified for review by the DIAL, please follow these guidelines:
    - Check to see if your jurisdiction is on the Local Code Enforcement list on page 4 or online at <https://dial.iowa.gov/licenses/building/plan-review#accordion-title--696540239>.
      - If you find your jurisdiction on the BUILDING CODE list, you will need to have an architect or engineer seek written approval from your local building code official, not the DIAL. If your jurisdiction is not listed, you will need to have an architect or engineer follow the Building Code Plan Review Submittal Process starting on page 5 to seek written approval from the DIAL.
      - If you find your jurisdiction on the FIRE CODE list, you will need to have an architect or engineer seek written approval from your local fire chief. If your jurisdiction is not listed, you will need to have an architect or engineer seek written approval from the DIAL.
      - If you do not find your jurisdiction on either list, you will need to have an architect or engineer follow the Building Code Plan Review Submittal Process starting on page 5 to seek written approval from the DIAL.
      - Any references below for the schools sending plans, drawings, etc. to the email [bcinfo@dps.state.ia.us](mailto:bcinfo@dps.state.ia.us) would only apply if your local jurisdiction is not listed on the Local Enforcement Code list.
    - All submittals must come from the school's architect or engineer.
1. Entry control
    - a. Visitor management systems
      - i. If it is just a computer check-in system, the DIAL Fire Safety Bureau does not need to see it. But if it incorporates an exiting specific locking system, see 1b below to determine if the DIAL Fire Safety Bureau needs to see it.
    - b. Any type of exiting specific locking systems for interior or exterior (locks, crash bars, electronic access, door prop alarms, etc.).
      - i. Schools are not required to get DIAL approval for access control locks. These are locks that prevent **ACCESS** to the building. No approval is needed and installation can move forward.

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- ii. DIAL Fire Safety Bureau **will need to approve** all door locking requests that prevent **EGRESS FROM THE BUILDING**. The schools need to work with their local law enforcement and fire personnel so they have a plan to grant access to the building in the event of an emergency.
  - 1. All locking submittals for schools need to include what is at this link <https://dial.iowa.gov/media/7466/download?inline=>, and
  - 2. A variance is required for anything that **DOESN'T** meet fire or building codes. All door locking requests should meet the requirements as outlined in the above links. Compliance with the door locking guide meets the fire code. Third-party classroom barrier devices that don't meet code should use the DIAL Door Securement Variance at this link -- <https://dial.iowa.gov/media/7494/download?inline=> and should be sent to the following email [Fire.Inspections@dia.iowa.gov](mailto:Fire.Inspections@dia.iowa.gov).
- c. Metal detectors
  - i. DIAL does not need to approve these.
- d. Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) for anything that supports electronic security systems.
  - i. DIAL does not need to approve these.
- e. Exterior/Interior doors
  - i. This does need to be a full submittal done by an architect to the DIAL website at <https://iowa.imagetrendlicense.com/lms/public/portal#/login>.
- f. Secure vestibule
  - i. This does need to be a full submittal done by an architect to the DIAL website at <https://iowa.imagetrendlicense.com/lms/public/portal#/login>.
- g. Door frame magnetic strips
  - i. Dial does not need to approve these.
- h. Safety latch for panic/crash bars
  - i. This does need to be a full submittal done by an architect to the DIAL website at <https://iowa.imagetrendlicense.com/lms/public/portal#/login>.
- i. Panic bar straps
  - i. Dial does not need to approve these.
- j. Elevator access control
  - i. DIAL does not need to approve these unless in a high rise building.
- 2. Electronic security and communication systems
  - a. Video Surveillance systems/equipment
    - i. DIAL does not need to approve these.
  - b. Intrusion Detection systems/equipment
    - i. DIAL does not need to approve these.
  - c. Duress System/Mass notification systems/alarms systems
    - i. Typically, these systems are part of the fire alarm systems so the DIAL Building & Construction Bureau does need to see these submittals. This will be done

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through a design professional at

<https://iowa.imagetrendlicense.com/lms/public/portal#/login>

- d. Electronic signage, i.e., monitors or TV
  - i. DIAL does not need to approve these.
- e. Communication equipment (radios, call boxes, cell boosters, etc)
  - i. DIAL does not need to approve these.
- f. Uninterruptible power supply for anything that supports electronic security and communication systems – Dial does not need to approve these.
- g. Weather radio – Dial does not need to approve these.
- h. Gunshot detection system – Dial does not need to approve these.
- i. Weapon detection system – Dial does not need to approve these.

### 3. Barriers

- a. Vehicle barriers (bollards, large rocks, jersey barriers, etc.).
  - i. DIAL Building & Construction Bureau does need to review these both for exiting and ADA. This does need to be a full submittal done by an architect to the DIAL website at <https://iowa.imagetrendlicense.com/lms/public/portal#/login>.
- b. Portable barriers
  - i. DIAL Building & Construction Bureau does need to review these both for exiting and ADA. This does need to be a full submittal done by an architect to the DIAL website at <https://iowa.imagetrendlicense.com/lms/public/portal#/login>.
- c. Guard rails
  - i. DIAL Building & Construction Bureau does need to review these both for exiting and ADA. This does need to be a full submittal done by an architect to the DIAL website at <https://iowa.imagetrendlicense.com/lms/public/portal#/login>.

### 4. Perimeter security

- a. Security related signage (camera surveillance, controlled entry, exterior numbering of door signage).
  - i. DIAL does not need to approve these.
- b. Fencing (chain link, brick and mortar, wrought iron, etc.) Enhancements can include anti-climb, privacy screening, K-rated, etc.
  - i. DIAL Building & Construction Bureau does need to review these both for exiting and ADA. This does need to be a full submittal done by an architect to the DIAL website at <https://iowa.imagetrendlicense.com/lms/public/portal#/login>.
- c. Gates (drop arm, swing gate, moveable bollards, roller or slide gate, etc.).
  - i. DIAL Building & Construction Bureau does need to review these both for exiting and ADA. This does need to be a full submittal done by an architect to the DIAL website at <https://iowa.imagetrendlicense.com/lms/public/portal#/login>.

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5. Illumination

- a. Any type of interior or exterior lighting and related equipment such as dawn to dusk controllers, to include emergency lighting.
  - i. DIAL Building & Construction Bureau does need to review these for exiting. This needs to be a full submittal done by an architect to the DIAL website at <https://iowa.imagetrendlicense.com/lms/public/portal#/login>.

6. Building envelope

- a. Safety Glass or glass hardening measures (blast/safety film, blast curtains, bullet-proof, etc.).
  - i. This needs to be a full submittal done by an architect to the DIAL website at <https://iowa.imagetrendlicense.com/lms/public/portal#/login>.
- b. Exterior doors
  - i. This needs to be a full submittal done by an architect to the DIAL website at <https://iowa.imagetrendlicense.com/lms/public/portal#/login>.
- c. Outside HVAC/backup power area security
  - i. DIAL does not need to approve these.
- d. External air intake protective measures
  - i. DIAL does not need to approve these.
- e. Security mirrors for hallways/stairwells
  - i. DIAL does not need to approve these.
- f. Window hardware – Dial does not need to approve these.
- g. Windows (ballistic rated, wire-reinforced, etc.)
  - i. This needs to be a full submittal done by an architect to the DIAL website at <https://iowa.imagetrendlicense.com/lms/public/portal#/login>.
- h. Interior window Shades – Dial does not need to approve these.

**STATE FIRE MARSHAL - List of Jurisdictions Approved for own Code Enforcement**

BUILDING CODE		FIRE CODE	
City	County	City	City
Adel	Le Mars	Bremer	Ames
Algona	Madrid	Johnson	Ankeny
Altoona	Marion	Linn	Bettendorf
Ames	Marshalltown	Polk	Boone
Ankeny	Martensadle	Pottawattamie	Burlington
Asbury	Mason City	Scott	Cedar Falls
Avoca	Maxwell		Cedar Rapids
Bettendorf	Missouri Valley	<b>*United CSD</b>	Centerville
Bondurant	Mitchellville	<b>in rural Boone</b>	Clinton
Boone *	Monroe	<b>State reviews</b>	Clive
Burlington	Mount Pleasant		Coralville
Carlise	Muscatine		Council Bluffs
Carroll	Nevada		Davenport
Cedar Falls	Newton		Delaware Township
Cedar Rapids	North Liberty		Denison
Centerville	Norwalk		Des Moines
Chariton	Orange City		Dubuque
Charles City	Osceola		Fort Dodge**
Clear Lake	Oskaloosa		Fort Madison
Clinton	Ottumwa		
Clive	Panora		
Colfax	Pella		
Coralville	Perry		
Council Bluffs	Pleasant Hill		
Creston	Pleasantville		
Cumming	Polk City		
Davenport	Postville		
Dallas Center	Prairie City		
De Soto	Roland		
Denison	Runnells		
Des Moines	Sergeant Bluff		
DeWitt	Shenandoah		
Dubuque	Sioux Center		
Earlham	Sioux City		
Eldridge	Slater		
Elkhart	Spirit Lake		
Evansdale	Saint Charles		
Fort Dodge	Storm Lake		
Fort Madison	Stuart		
Grimes	Tipton		
Granger	Urbandale		
Grinnell	Van Meter		
Harlan	Vinton		
Hartford	Washington		
Hiawatha	Waterloo		
Hudson	Wauke		
Indianola	Waverly		
Iowa City	Webster City		
Iowa Falls	West Burlington		
Jesup	West Des Moines		
Johnston	Windsor Heights		
Keokuk	Winterset		
Knoxville	Woodward		
Le Claire			

**\*\*State always reviews state-owned bldgs & healthcare facilities**

\*\* Fort Dodge & Ottumwa FD have requested all fire alarm and sprinkler plans be reviewed by the State

\*\*\* Webster City will request some fire alarm and sprinkler plans be reviewed by the State on case-by-case basis

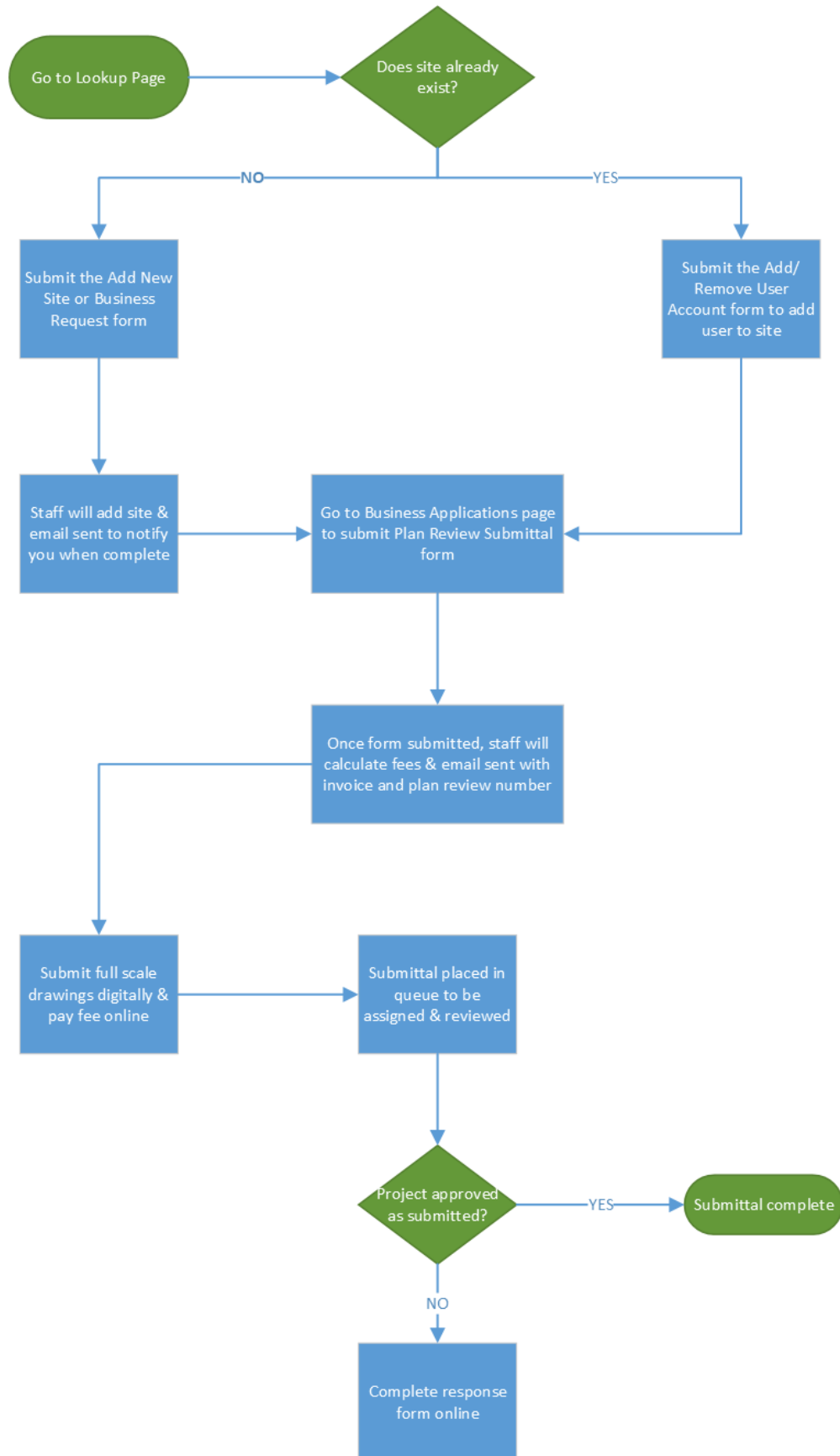
# Building Code Plan Review Submittal Process

PLEASE NOTE: You will use this process to submit full plan reviews, requests for exemption from full plan reviews, and may also use it to request a preliminary review meeting.

- A. Use the Public Portal Lookup to verify whether the project site is already in the system.  
<https://iowa.imagetrendlicense.com/portal#/login>
1. If the site exists, submit Update User Account form to add your user account to the site.
    - a. *Be sure to select the correct Plan Review Contact role!*
  2. If the site does not exist, submit the Request New Business or Site application form.
    - a. Once the site is added by staff, your user account will also be added as the appropriate plan review contact role.
    - b. You will then receive an email notifying you the site has been added and you are listed as point of contact.
  3. Submit the Building Code Plan Review Submittal application form for the project site.
    - a. FOR ARCHITECTURAL PROJECTS ONLY: If you have not already had a preliminary review with our office, please contact us by phone (515) 725-6145 or email [bcinfo@dps.state.ia.us](mailto:bcinfo@dps.state.ia.us) to schedule a preliminary review. Or you may indicate on the submittal form that you have not had a preliminary review and a plans examiner will be assigned to contact you once your form has been received.
    - b. **WAIT to digitally submit full-scale drawings and accompanying documentation until you have received the second confirmation email that includes your assigned plan review number and invoice for fees. Paper plans and thumb drives are NO LONGER ACCEPTED by the Building Code Bureau as of September 1, 2023.**
      - i. To request a digital upload location for architectural plans, email [bcinfo@dps.state.ia.us](mailto:bcinfo@dps.state.ia.us) and request a digital upload link. Please provide the project number and project name when requesting the link.
        - **The Building Code Bureau requires wet signed/sealed paper plans that are “100% construction sets”. We do not accept “preliminary” or “not for construction”. If submittals do not meet these criteria, a notification will be sent.**
    - c. Once the digital plans have been uploaded, it will be your responsibility to let the assigned plan reviewer know. Plan reviews will not take place until after fees are paid and notification of plan upload has been completed. Any questions on this process change should be submitted to [bcinfo@dps.state.ia.us](mailto:bcinfo@dps.state.ia.us)
  4. Pay fees online by credit card or ACH via secured payment portal or mail check.
  5. Once the plan review has been completed, an email is sent to you with the plan reviewer’s comments attached. That form will also indicate if a response is required.
    - a. When a plan review response is required, a response form is added online to the project application for completion and submittal.
  6. Once your project is approved, the comment form will also include contact information for the assigned building code inspector and fire prevention inspector, along with contact information for the assigned plan reviewer.

# Go to License Management Online Public Portal

<https://iowa.imagetrendlicense.com/lms/public/portal#/login>



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## TIPS:

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### Search for Project Site

- Be sure to select “Building Code” from the License Classification drop down.
- PLEASE NOTE: Sites are added based on site name AND address. Keep in mind a project may have a “different” name, but if it is located at the same address or part of a large site overall (such as a university or hospital), a new site will not be added. You will submit your project under the existing site and use the “Project Name” field on the submittal form to identify your project specifically.
- If you believe your project site is already in the system, but are unable to locate it using Lookup, please email [sfmlicense@dps.state.ia.us](mailto:sfmlicense@dps.state.ia.us) with the name and address of the project site and ask for assistance.

### Submit Project Plan Review Form

- On Available Applications page, click on the Business Applications link about mid-center of the page.
- Use the Filter By Service drop down to select the correct project site. Once you have selected the site, you will find the Building Code Plan Review Submittal form under the Applications bar.

DPS Home | SFM Home

Welcome, Cindy Lou \*Who | Logout

### Available Applications

Click on the **Apply Now** button to the right of the applicable form below. If you do not see the **Apply Now** button, the form **MAY** already have been started. Click on the **Continue** link in the left-hand navigation pane to access the form.

For RME, installer, or individual blaster forms, click on [View My Applications](#).

If you do not see the needed application form below, please click the Continue link in the navigation pane to see if the form was already started.

Commercial Explosives:  
[Employee Possessor List Excel Template Download](#)  
[Training Equivalency Affidavit Form Download](#)

My Applications | Business Applications

Filter By Service: Whoville Daycare (None) [v] [red arrow]

- No Service Selected
- Whoville Daycare (None)
- Whoville High School (None) [red arrow]

Whoville High School (None)  
987 Who Rd, Lakeville, Minnesota 55044

Applications [Action]

**Building Code Plan Review Submittal**  
Plan review application form to request review of architectural, fire alarm, fire sprinkler/suppression, specialized door locking mechanism, etc. [Apply Now]

### Project Building Site Details

- A field called “Project Name (if different from site name)” is provided for you to indicate additional information about the site. This field is especially important for large projects where the project site address may be the same, but there are different floors, suites, etc. to the facility. This field will help you and our staff identify a project.
- Once the plan review form has been submitted, it will be checked for completeness and the correct fees calculated and a second email is sent with an invoice attached.
- The second email will indicate the plan review number assigned to your project. Please use this number going forward to reference the project in any correspondence and when you send the full set of drawings and electronic documentation required.



## Plan Review Comments

- The plan review comments form will be similar to past comment letters you may have received from plan review staff, but in a form layout. Please read each comment form carefully so as not to miss responding to any items. Responses are required for any General Code Comment box that was checked, as well as any specific Plan Review Comments listed below.

## Plan Review Response

- If the plan reviewer comment form indicated a response is required, locate the Initial Plan Review Response form online under your project site plan submittal. Click on the Applications link in the left-hand navigation pane and then click on the Continue link. Find your project site and expand the submittal if necessary (click on the inverted ^ left of the submittal line). Click on the Continue button next to the Initial Plan Review Response form.

Welcome, Cindy Lou \*Who | Logout

Continue My Applications

Click the grey header bar below to expand the application. Click on the Start or Continue button to access the form.

This section allows you to work with the forms for applications that you have already started. Click *Start* to work with forms you have not yet started filling out, *Continue* for forms that are still in progress or the *PDF* icon to view a form that you already completed. Forms that have been completed (submitted) cannot be edited.

You may see "Forms: 1 of \_ completed" after you submit your application. This is because we have internal forms we use for our process that you won't see. If you do not have a form listed with a Start or Continue button available, you do not have any additional forms to complete under that application.

Form	Requested	Completed	Action
Building Code Plan Review Submittal	Dec 18, 2018	Dec 18, 2018	<a href="#">View PDF</a>
Initial Plan Review Comments	Dec 20, 2018	Dec 20, 2018	<a href="#">View PDF</a>
Initial Plan Review Response	Dec 20, 2018		<a href="#">Continue</a>

## Complete Plan Review Response Form

- For each code section included in the plan reviewer's comments, you must enter the code section and your comment response. You will want to periodically click the Save button at the bottom of the page to avoid losing your responses before you submit the form.
- You will not receive any email confirmation regarding the submittal of your response. Once the plan reviewer has reviewed your response document, you will receive an email with the Additional Plan Review Comments form attached addressing your response. If necessary, a second response may be required.