



INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES (ICAR) MINUTES

Meeting Date/Location: November 13, 2023, virtually via Microsoft Teams

Members Present: Chair Sean Brown, Brendan Atwood, Jared Adler, Jennifer Mojo, John Kessler, Diane Sherman, Michael Obuchowski, and Nicole Dubuque

Minutes By: Melissa Mazza-Paquette and Anna Reinold

- 2:02 p.m. meeting called to order, welcome and introductions.
- Review and approval of [minutes](#) from the October 9, 2023 meeting.
- No additions/deletions to agenda. Agenda approved as drafted.
- Note the following emergency rules were supported by ICAR Chair:
 - On 10/23/23: Emergency Housing Transition Benefit, by the Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families
 - This emergency rule is necessary to continue providing emergency housing assistance in accordance with Act 81.
 - Act 81 established an emergency housing transition benefit that provides continued housing in a hotel or motel for households that were housed through the pandemic-era General Assistance Emergency Housing Program as of June 30, 2023. Under Act 81, the transition benefit ends April 1, 2024. This emergency rule maintains the eligibility criteria initially established in 23-E05, with the following changes: 1) language clarifying that a household must accept and maintain a hotel or motel housing placement for the duration of the eligibility reassessment period to maintain eligibility for the transition benefit; 2) not including “upon expiration of the eligibility reassessment period” from rule 2652.5(D)(i) to align with the requirement in Act 81 that eligibility terminate upon noncompliance with the criteria established in the Act; 3) new definition of misconduct; 4) language addressing hospital-level care and short-term alternative housing placements; and 5) language addressing notice and appeal rights.
 - On 10/23/23: Expansion of Eligibility Criteria for Temporary Housing Assistance, by the Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families
 - This emergency rule is necessary to continue providing temporary housing assistance to families with children under 18 years of age and calculating the income contribution based on average or current daily motel rate.
 - Temporary housing assistance under the General Assistance program provides up to 84 or 28 days of housing in a hotel or motel. Households that are without housing due to a catastrophic situation may be eligible for up to 84 days. Households that are ineligible under catastrophic criteria may be eligible for up to 28 days if the household has a member belonging to a vulnerable population. This rule maintains categorical eligibility for 28 days of housing for families with children under 18 years of age or who are 18 or 19 years of age and attending school, as initially established in 23-E05. This rule also maintains the update to the basic needs standard chart in rule 2652.4 and the methodology for calculating the 30 percent income contribution in rule 2652.4, as initially established in 23-E05. This rule adds language addressing lodging licensing

violations. Criteria related to the Act 81 transition benefit are not included in this rule and will be included in a separate emergency rule.

- Public comments made by Jay Greene, Office of Racial Equity regarding the General Assistance Temporary Housing Assistance proposed rule by the Department for Children and Families
- Presentation of Proposed Rules on pages 3-6 to follow.
 1. Rules Governing Medications for Opioid Use Disorder, Department of Health, page 3
 2. General Assistance Temporary Housing Assistance, Department for Children and Families, page 4
 3. Regulations for Lead Control, Agency of Human Services, Department of Health, page 5
 4. Vermont Fire Service Training Council Rules and Policies, Vermont Fire Service Training Council, page 6
- Next scheduled meeting is December 11, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.
- 3:11 p.m. meeting adjourned.

**Proposed Rule: Rules Governing Medications for Opioid Use Disorder, Department of Health
Presented By: Brendan Atwood**

Motion made to accept the rule as presented without any changes by John Kessler, seconded by Nicole Dubuque, and passed unanimously except for Brendan Atwood and Jared Adler who abstained.

Proposed Rule: General Assistance Temporary Housing Assistance, Department for Children and Families

Presented By: Heidi Moreau

Motion made to accept the rule by Mike Obuchowski, seconded by Diane Sherman, and passed unanimously except for Brendan Atwood who abstained, with the following recommendations:

1. Proposed Filing Coversheet, #8: Begin with a description of what the rule does overall. Clarify that the rule changes do not come from any legislation. Note the use of the word 'maintain' used repeatedly is due to the emergency rule.
2. Economic Impact Analysis: Enhance a description of the cost-benefit analysis. If possible, note the positive non-quantifiable impact of the shelters.
3. Public Input Maximization Plan, #3: Include public forums.
4. Proposed Rule:
 - a. Follow up with the Office of Racial Equity regarding their concerns presented during the public comment period.
 - b. Clarify the 30% of the household income is gross in rule 2652, page 6.

**Proposed Rule: Regulations for Lead Control, Agency of Human Services, Department of Health
Presented By: Meg McCarthy**

Motion made to accept the rule by Diane Sherman, seconded by Jen Mojo, and passed unanimously except for Brendan Atwood who abstained, with the following recommendations:

1. Proposed Filing – Coversheet:
 - a. #7: Define ‘RRPM’.
 - b. #8: Include who is asking for this rule to be changed.
2. Economic Impact Analysis: Provide an estimate of how many units might fall under this rule.
3. Environmental Impact Analysis, #3: Consider reduction of lead in soil because of this rule.
4. Public Input Maximization Plan, #4: Clarify that the rental property owners noted reached out to the department for a copy of the proposed rule. Clarify that you'll share the rule with the others listed and complete outreach and efforts being made. Include all those that were included in the outreach and any public information campaigns. Consider reach out to small landlords broadly who might not have a certificate yet.

Proposed Rule: Vermont Fire Service Training Council Rules and Policies, Vermont Fire Service Training Council

Presented By: Michael Skaza and John Marcus

Motion made to accept the rule by Mike Obuchowski, seconded by John Kessler, and passed unanimously with the following recommendations:

1. Title: Strike 'policies' from the title, as ICAR is not a policy making committee.
2. Proposed Filing – Coversheet:
 - a. #8 and #9: Provide details about what is changing.
 - b. #16: Include the word 'firefighter'.
3. Economic Impact Analysis: Highlight the positive economic impact of the proposed changes and include an illustrative example.