

BAIT DEALER

481A.144 LICENSED BAIT DEALER – REQUIREMENTS

1. A person shall not sell minnows, frogs, crayfish or salamanders for bait without first obtaining a bait dealer's license from the department upon payment of the license fee. A licensee shall comply with all laws pertaining to taking, possessing, and selling of bait handled by the licensee. If convicted of violating a provision of this chapter or a rule adopted pursuant to this chapter or a rule adopted pursuant to this chapter, a licensee shall forfeit the licensee's bait dealer license upon demand of the director.
2. When taking bait from lakes and streams, bait dealers shall take only the size of bait which they can use, and shall return all small minnows and frogs to the water immediately.
3. A minnow and bait box and a tank shall be open to inspection by the department at all times. A licensee shall have tanks and bait boxes of sufficient size and with proper aeration to keep the bait alive and prevent substantial loss.
4. A person shall not take or attempt to take minnows for commercial purposes from any waters of the state or shall not transport minnows without first obtaining a bait dealer's license. However, a person taking or transporting minnows for personal use is not required to have a bait dealer's license.

481A.145 TAKING AND SELLING MINNOWS AND OTHER BAIT-REGULATIONS

1. Except for species listed as threatened or endangered under chapter 481B, a licensed bait dealer may take sufficient bait from lakes and streams of this state that are not closed to the taking of bait, to supply the licensee's customers for hook and line fishing if the licensee is present while the bait is being taken.
2. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, a person shall not carry, transport, ship, or cause to be carried, transported, or shipped, any minnows for the purpose of sale beyond the boundaries of the state. Minnows which are bred, hatched, propagated, or raised on a licensed aquaculture unit may be transported outside the state.
3. A person shall not transport, use, sell or offer to sell for bait or introduce into any inland waters of this state or into any waters from which the waters of the state may become stocked, any minnows or fish of the carp, quillback, gar, or dogfish species. Fish of the carp, quillback, gar, or dogfish species may be returned to the waters from which they are taken. A person shall not possess live gizzard shad at any lake in this state.
4. Minnow traps not exceeding thirty-six inches in length may be used when the taking of minnows is allowed. Each trap, when in use, shall have a metal tag attached plainly labeled with the owner's name and address.
5. A person shall not use a minnow dip net which exceeds four feet in diameter, a cast net which exceeds ten feet in diameter, or a minnow seine which exceeds twenty feet in length or has a mesh size smaller than one-quarter inch bar measure. Licensed bait dealers may obtain a permit from

the department to use minnow seines longer than twenty feet, but not exceeding fifty feet in length.

6. The department may designate certain lake and streams, and parts of them, from which minnow populations should be protected for the best management of the lake or streams. If an investigation of a lake or stream or a portion of a lake or stream by the department indicates that the minnow population should be protected, the lake or stream or a portion of the lake or stream shall be closed to the taking of minnows for a period of time deemed advisable by the department.

483A.1 LICENSES – FEES

Available at any retail outlet or online.

1. Residents:

Retail bait dealer license	\$38
Wholesale bait dealer license ...	\$148.50
2. Nonresident:

Retail bait dealer license ...	\$148.50
Wholesale bait dealer license...	\$294.50

481A.19 RECIPROCITY

Licenses for bait dealers or for fishing, hunting, or fur harvesting shall not be issued to residents of states that do not sell similar licenses or certificates to residents of Iowa.

DEFINITIONS

“**Bait**” includes, but is not limited to, minnows, green sunfish, orange-spotted sunfish, gizzard shad, frogs, crayfish and salamanders.

“**Minnows**” means chubs, suckers, shiners, dace, stone rollers, mud minnows, red-horse, blunt-nose and fathead minnows.

Retail. Retail means the sale of goods or commodities to the ultimate consumer, as opposed to the sale of goods or commodities for further distribution or processing.

Wholesale. Wholesale means the sale of goods or commodities for resale by a retailer, as opposed to the sale of goods or commodities to the ultimate consumer.

