In addition to the general requirements contained in the ARRL Iowa Section ARES Code of Conduct, Story County ARES has adopted the following member qualification policy:

Story County ARES cannot allow individuals who are on either the Iowa Sex Offender Registry or National Sex Offender Registry to serve in a volunteer capacity. During a disaster, volunteers are used in a variety of roles including Emergency Operation Center (EOC) liaisons, shelter support, or working with impacted citizens in a recovery center. During all phases of disaster response and recovery, the agencies we serve must ensure the safety of those impacted by a disaster. Concern for those impacted is a key reason these agencies need volunteers who have been identified, vetted and trained prior to a disaster event occurring.

Prospective Amateur Radio Emergency Service volunteers’ names and dates of birth will be checked against the public online records of:

Iowa Courts Online

Iowa Sex Offender Registry

National Sex Offender Registry

The record check will be conducted every 5 years or if a volunteer is found to have any new criminal charges.

All volunteers will report any criminal arrest, citation or conviction to ARES EC immediately upon arrest or conviction for consideration of the volunteer’s continued qualifications to serve with ARES. Failure to report may result in dismissal of the volunteer.

Any prospective or current volunteer who has been convicted of an offense whereby he/she appears on the National Sex Offender public website or for which he/she must register with the State of Iowa Sex Offender Registry as required by Iowa Code 692A, may not serve in a volunteer capacity with the Amateur Radio Emergency Service and ARES leadership must revoke their membership and notify the volunteer.

Additional disqualifiers:

Any felony conviction and/or crime punishable by confinement greater than 1 year.

Any lesser crime using force of threat or force against any person.

Any lesser crime in which sexual relations is an element, including victimless crimes of a sexual nature.

The above standard will also be used when responding to the Story County Emergency Management Coordinator’s requests for recommendations when approving RACES Station License Applications.