

# Work-Based Learning is for Every Student in Iowa



## What is Work-Based Learning?

**In-depth** Work-Based Learning (WBL) includes different opportunities for students and employers such as Registered Apprenticeships, Quality Pre-Apprenticeships, Internships, Authentic Project-Based Learning with Employers, Simulated Work Experiences aligned with Industry Credentials and School-Based Enterprises.

These experiences provide students with practical skills and real-world knowledge that are invaluable as they transition from education to the workforce.

## Why Work-Based Learning?

**Students** have the opportunity to learn new skills that can help them start their careers, connect with possible employers, and figure out what kind of work they prefer.

**Employers** can work with schools to build up a group of talented students, offer training in important skills to potential employees, and assess students to see if they are a good fit for the job.



# How to Start or Expand Work-Based Learning?



## Employers + Educators

Please contact our Iowa Workforce Development Work-Based Learning Team to brainstorm ideas, facilitate meetings with potential partners, design work-based learning programs and learn about financial resources to support work-based learning.

## Contact the WBL Team

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Iowa Workforce  
Development



# Iowa K-12 Resources that Support Work-Based Learning

## **Summer Youth Internship Grants:**

Summer Youth Internship Grants support internships for 14- to 24-year-olds to help them prepare for high-demand careers. The competitive annual grants, which focus on youth who face barriers, may be used for wages, training resources and more: [workforce.iowa.gov/opportunities/grants/summer-internships](https://workforce.iowa.gov/opportunities/grants/summer-internships)

## **84(E):**

The Iowa Apprenticeship Act (84E) provides annual funding to support training or ongoing costs within any active Iowa Registered Apprenticeship program preparing youth or adults. For more information: [workforce.iowa.gov/apprenticeship/funding/84e](https://workforce.iowa.gov/apprenticeship/funding/84e)

## **84(F):**

The Iowa Registered Apprenticeship Development Fund (84F) provides annual funding to support growth of new Registered Apprenticeship programs featuring high-demand occupations. For more information about the competitive grants: [workforce.iowa.gov/apprenticeship/funding/84f](https://workforce.iowa.gov/apprenticeship/funding/84f)

## **STEM BEST (Businesses Engaging Students and Teachers):**

The Governor's STEM Advisory Council at the Iowa Department of Education annually awards competitive STEM BEST grants to grow community collaborations involving school-business work-based learning partnerships: <https://iowastem.org/STEMBEST>

## **Career Academy Incentive Fund:**

The Career Academy Incentive Fund provides competitive grants to support partnerships between school districts and community colleges that expand access to career academy programs through the development of career academy infrastructure, including regional centers: <https://educate.iowa.gov/higher-ed/cte/iowa-quality/partnerships-and-centers/career-academy-incentive-fund>

## **Iowa Clearinghouse for Work-Based Learning:**

Clearinghouse "Project Accelerators" support educators with developing work-based learning projects with area partnerships. Educators are awarded a \$1,000 stipend upon project completion. For more information: <https://clearinghouse.futurereadyiowa.gov/>

## **Operational Sharing:**

Iowa's school funding formula provides financial support for school districts to share work-based learning coordinators: <https://educate.iowa.gov/media/5530/download?inline=>

## **Teacher Leadership and Compensation:**

School districts may use TLC funds to support teacher leader work-based learning coordinator positions: <https://educate.iowa.gov/pk-12/educator-quality/tlc>

## **Summer College Credit Program:**

The Summer College Credit Program at community colleges provides access to summer career and technical education programs that are aligned with regional high-demand jobs at no cost to high school students and their families: <https://educate.iowa.gov/higher-ed/senior-year-plus#summer-college-credit-program>

## **Perkins V:**

Otherwise known as the federal Strengthening Career and Technical Education (CTE) for the 21st Century Act, Perkins V supports CTE in Iowa high schools and community colleges. Allowable costs may include but are not limited to industry-recognized credentials earned by students, some instructional materials and some equipment under certain circumstances: <https://educate.iowa.gov/higher-ed/cte/perkins-v>

