

OVERVIEW

The Iowa Student Internship Program provides grants to small and medium-sized companies in the advanced manufacturing, biosciences and information technology industries to help support internship programs with a goal of transitioning the interns to full-time employment in Iowa upon graduation.

EMPLOYER ELIGIBILITY

- Engaged in one of the targeted industries: biosciences, advanced manufacturing, or information technology
- Employs 500 or fewer employees where a significant portion are employed within lowa
- Offers internship(s) to students who meet the outlined eligibility requirements
- Pays intern(s) twice the minimum hourly wage or more (min. \$14.50/hour)
- Offers summer or semester-based internship(s)
 - Summer internship(s) must last a minimum of eight weeks (averaging no less than 30 hours per week)
 - Semester internship(s) must last a minimum of 14 weeks (averaging no less than 10 hours per week)
- Employers engaged in retail sales, provides health services, and/or has or will apply to the STEM Internship Program (877 IAC, Ch. 30) during the same fiscal year are ineligible for this award.

INTERN ELIGIBILITY

- Employed at an Iowa location
- An undergraduate or graduate student at an Iowa community college, private college, or regent university
- Graduated from an Iowa high school if attending an institution of higher learning outside of Iowa.
- Within 1-2 years of graduation
- Students who have graduated, are more than 2 years from graduation, and/or are immediate family members of management employees or board members of the applicant employer are ineligible for this program.

INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

The intern must participate in a substantive experience in one or more of the following areas: research and development, engineering, process management and production, product experimentation and analysis, product development, market research, exporting, business planning or administration.

EXPORT INTERNSHIPS

Through this program, employers are also able to hire students as export interns to support a company's current or prospective international export efforts. Resources are available through the universities to assist employers in finding qualified interns, support the student during their export internship and to assist companies in exporting.

AWARDS AND SPENDING GUIDELINES

- Eligible companies can apply for support for up to three (3) internships per fiscal year (July 1-June 30).
- Maximum amount awarded to any one employer for all internships in any one fiscal year shall not exceed \$9,300, up to \$3,100 per internship.
- Funds may only be used for reimbursement of intern wages during the designated internship period. Payroll and other supplemental documentation is required to validate each reimbursement request.
- IWD provides assistance on a reimbursement basis for every two dollars of wages earned by the student, one dollar paid by the business is matched by one dollar from IWD.
- Program funds shall not be used to cash flow a business. Funds generated through any state source cannot be used as matching funds; however, federal funding is an eligible match.
- Funds spent prior to receiving an award will not be reimbursed.

