

APPENDIX B: Future Ready Iowa Summer Youth Intern Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. Who can apply?

Eligible applicants include non-profits, educational institutions, employers, community organizations, other entities that are in good standing with the State of Iowa.

2. Who will decide which applications receive funding?

Iowa Workforce Development will identify panels to review and score proposals.

3. What is the criteria for selection?

- a. Quality of internship experience over a minimum of six weeks;
- b. Whether students will be paid and/or receive high school or college credit through dual enrollment;
- c. The provider's history and experience in the community to be served;
- d. The capacity to serve a substantial number of youth;
- e. The suitability of the available facilities;
- f. The provider's contacts and partnerships in the community that can be leveraged to maximize opportunity for project participants;
- g. The capacity to provide employability skills, including but not limited to training relating to soft skills, financial literacy and career development;
- h. Projects will be evaluated on their ability to be scaled around the state after the first successful year;
- i. Cost per participant; and
- j. [See Appendix C](#) – scoring rubric for additional criteria.

4. What is the budget for this award?

\$250,000 is the amount of money the State has funded for proposals. There is not a specific budget per project. The State may award multiple proposals based on the evaluation scores and funding available.

5. Are there any specifications on the type of internship opportunities that would be acceptable for participating youth? Are there certain approved fields?

No specification on the type of internship, other than it allows participants to explore and prepare for high-demand careers, gain work experience, and develop personal attributes necessary to succeed in the workplace and labor market. High-demand career refers to those for which the Iowa Workforce Development Board determines substantial work opportunities are available, and a lack of genuine qualified applicants are available in the state of Iowa. Careers such as those identified on the [State Workforce Development Board High-Demand Job List](#).

6. Are applicants required to identify specific project goal(s), such as how many participants, employers, etc.?

Yes, all applications must include performance measures that logically connect a project's goal(s) with proposed activities and demonstrate an overall theory of change. Performance measures should include to the extent possible whether the expected results were achieved.

7. Is there an approved age range for participating youth?

Participants should be between the ages of 14 and 19.

8. Are employers required to pay a stipend, wage or incentive and if so, what is an acceptable percentage or amount?

Yes, but the amount is not specified.

9. Will students be required to prepare a final capstone project/presentation to recap their overall experience?

No requirement for projects or presentations. This can be determined through the program design.

10. Will students be required to provide their own transportation to field sites if included in the curriculum, or is group transportation something that should be included in the budget?

Applicants make these decisions as part of the project proposal.

11. Should we plan for any students that will need special accommodations?

Applicants are required to recruit students and therefore will be required to plan accordingly.

12. Will the students be required to attend the entire camp or can it be set up in a manner that students will only attend if covering careers that pose interest to them?

To be determined and described in the project proposal.

13. Is it more important that the students are ready to enter a job, or that the students leave the curriculum with job experience?

The purpose is that students leave the internship program having had the opportunity to explore and prepare for high-demand careers, gain work experience, and develop personal attributes necessary to success in the workplace and labor market.

14. If the day spans over the lunch hour, will lunch need to be provided or is that something that can be brought from home by each individual student? (Past experience has taught me that not all students have the financial ability to provide the food.)

To be determined by applicant.

15. Is there a set duration of time the internship is required to be conducted/completed within (semester, three months, etc.)?

Yes, a minimum of six (6) weeks during the summer. Specifically, between the dates of May 1, 2021, and August 20, 2021.

16. Our agency has different service locations in 4 regions. Should separate applications be submitted or one for the organization?

One proposal per agency. We recommend the project design include information about multiple locations.

17. When is the application due?

Thursday, March 25, 2021, at 11:59 pm Central Standard Time.

18. When will awardees be notified?

Friday, April 2, 2021.

19. What is the project timeline for expending the funds?

The project needs to be completed by Friday August 20, 2021.

20. Will all applications be awarded?

Submission of an application does not guarantee an award.