

Future Ready Iowa Fast Facts

What is Future Ready Iowa?

Future Ready Iowa is a workforce initiative that connects Iowans to the training and education required for good-paying jobs and careers that improve people's lives.

Why?

Education and training beyond high school is the new minimum in today's technology-driven, knowledge economy. By 2025, 68 percent of Iowa jobs are expected to require training or education beyond high school.

To have the most future-ready, capable workforce we have to connect more Iowans with opportunities to obtain relevant education and training. This will help employers and our economy as Iowans earn higher incomes and improve their quality of life.

What is the Future Ready Iowa goal?

That 70 percent of Iowans in the workforce (ages 25-64) have education and training beyond high school by 2025.

What is the Future Ready Iowa Last-Dollar Scholarship?

The goal of the Last-Dollar Scholarship program is to increase the number of Iowans with education and training up to a two-year degree in occupations that are in high demand throughout Iowa. The scholarship program will pay tuition – after applying non-repayable federal and state financial aid – for Iowans who enroll in one of the designated programs of study. All students will receive at least \$500 even if, for example their federal Pell Grant fully covers tuition. This effort is geared toward getting more Iowans into great jobs (starting at a minimum of \$14 per hour), meeting the needs of Iowa employers and growing Iowa's economy.

For more information go to www.iowacollegeaid.gov/lastdollar

What is the Future Ready Iowa Grant Program?

The Future Ready Iowa Grant program provides grant support to Iowans who have earned at least half of the credits necessary to complete an eligible program in a high-demand field to complete the four year degree. Iowa has experienced employee shortages in occupations where a four-year degree is required. This program will provide a stipend to help with the cost of education (at least \$1,000 annually for a full-time student) for individuals who qualify.

For more information go to www.iowacollegeaid.gov/futurereadygrant

What is the Future Ready Iowa Employer Innovation Fund?

This fund is designed to support employer led local and regional efforts to increase the number of Iowans who obtain credentials of value linked to high-demand jobs in Iowa. This is a matching grant looking to support creative, innovative initiatives.

To find out more go to www.futurereadyiowa.gov and click on Future Ready Iowa Employer Innovation Fund.

For general information go to www.futurereadyiowa.gov You can contact someone via the website or call Kathy Leggett, Future Ready Iowa Policy Advisor at 515-725-3882.