

House Study Bill 602 - Introduced

SENATE/HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED GOVERNOR BILL)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act creating a future ready Iowa Act to strengthen workforce
2 development by establishing a registered apprenticeship
3 development program, a volunteer mentoring program, a summer
4 youth intern program, summer postsecondary courses for high
5 school students that are aligned with high-demand career
6 pathways, an employer innovation fund, and future ready Iowa
7 skilled workforce scholarship and grant programs and funds,
8 and including effective date provisions.
9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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DIVISION I

TITLE OF ACT

Section 1. TITLE OF ACT. This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Future Ready Iowa Act".

DIVISION II

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY — FUTURE READY IOWA REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Sec. 2. Section 15.106A, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code 2018, is amended to read as follows:

a. That through **this section** and **section 15.106B**, the authority has been granted broad general powers and specific program powers over all of the authority's statutory programs, including but not limited to the programs created pursuant to chapters 15, **15A**, **15B**, **15C**, **15E**, and **15J**.

Sec. 3. Section 15B.4, Code 2018, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 5. An apprenticeship sponsor receiving financial assistance under this chapter is ineligible for financial assistance under section 15C.1 during the same fiscal year.

Sec. 4. **NEW SECTION.** **15C.1 Future ready Iowa registered apprenticeship development program.**

1. *Definitions.* For purposes of this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

a. "Applicant" means a new or existing apprenticeship sponsor located in Iowa that has established an apprenticeship program involving an eligible apprenticeable occupation that is located in Iowa and approved by the United States department of labor, office of apprenticeship.

b. "Apprentice" means a person who is at least sixteen years of age, except where a higher minimum age is required by law, who is employed in an apprenticeable occupation, and is registered in Iowa with the United States department of labor, office of apprenticeship.

c. "Apprenticeable occupation" means an occupation approved

1 for apprenticeship by the United States department of labor,
2 office of apprenticeship.

3 *d. "Apprenticeship program"* means a program registered
4 with the United States department of labor, office of
5 apprenticeship, which includes terms and conditions for the
6 qualification, recruitment, selection, employment, and training
7 of apprentices, including the requirement for a written
8 apprenticeship agreement.

9 *e. "Apprenticeship sponsor"* means an entity operating
10 an apprenticeship program or an entity in whose name an
11 apprenticeship program is being operated, which is registered
12 with or approved by the United States department of labor,
13 office of apprenticeship.

14 *f. "Authority"* means the economic development authority
15 created in section 15.105.

16 *g. "Eligible apprenticeable occupation"* means an
17 apprenticeable occupation identified by the workforce
18 development board pursuant to section 84A.1B, subsection 13A,
19 as a high-demand job, after consultation with the authority.

20 *h. "Financial assistance"* means assistance provided only
21 from the funds, rights, and assets legally available to the
22 authority and includes but is not limited to assistance in the
23 form of a reimbursement grant to support the costs associated
24 with establishing a new eligible apprenticeable occupation
25 or an additional eligible apprenticeable occupation in an
26 applicant's apprenticeship program.

27 *2. Program created.* Subject to an appropriation of funds
28 by the general assembly for this purpose, a future ready Iowa
29 registered apprenticeship development program is created which
30 shall be administered by the authority. The purpose of the
31 program is to provide financial assistance to incentivize
32 small and medium-sized apprenticeship sponsors to establish
33 new or additional eligible apprenticeable occupations in the
34 apprenticeship sponsor's apprenticeship program in order to
35 support the growth of apprenticeship programs and expand

1 high-quality work-based learning experiences in high-demand
2 fields and careers for persons who are employed in eligible
3 apprenticeable occupations in Iowa.

4 3. *Application requirements — restriction.* An
5 apprenticeship sponsor may apply to the authority, on
6 forms provided by the authority and in accordance with the
7 authority's instructions, to receive financial assistance under
8 the program. The authority shall provide upon request and on
9 the authority's internet site information about the program,
10 the application, application instructions, and the application
11 period established each year for funding available under the
12 program. The application shall include a description of how
13 the financial assistance awarded under this section would be
14 used to establish an apprenticeship program or add new or
15 additional apprenticeable occupations to the apprenticeship
16 sponsor's apprenticeship program and the anticipated program
17 expenses identified by the applicant.

18 a. An apprenticeship sponsor is eligible to apply for
19 financial assistance for a new or additional eligible
20 apprenticeable occupation, in addition to existing
21 apprenticeship occupations in the apprenticeship sponsor's
22 apprenticeship program, if all of the following conditions are
23 met:

24 (1) Twenty or fewer apprentices are registered in the
25 existing apprenticeship program as of December 31 of the
26 calendar year prior to the date the authority receives the
27 apprenticeship sponsor's application.

28 (2) More than seventy percent of the applicant's
29 apprentices shall be residents of Iowa. In determining the
30 number of apprentices in an applicant's apprenticeship program,
31 the authority may calculate the average number of apprentices
32 in the program within the most recent two-year period.

33 b. An apprenticeship sponsor receiving financial assistance
34 under chapter 15B is ineligible for financial assistance under
35 this section during the same fiscal year.

1 4. *Rules.* The authority shall adopt rules pursuant to
2 chapter 17A establishing a staff review and application
3 approval process, application scoring criteria, the minimum
4 score necessary for approval of financial assistance,
5 procedures for notification of an award of financial
6 assistance, the terms of agreement between the apprenticeship
7 sponsor and the authority, and any other rules deemed necessary
8 for the implementation and administration of this section.

9 5. *Agreement.* Prior to distributing financial assistance
10 under this section, the authority shall enter into an agreement
11 with the apprenticeship sponsor awarded financial assistance
12 in accordance with this section, and the financial assistance
13 recipient shall confirm the expenses for establishing the
14 program or adding the additional occupations as identified in
15 the approved application, and shall meet all terms established
16 by the authority for receipt of financial assistance under this
17 section.

18 6. *Use of moneys appropriated — administration.*

19 a. The annual administrative expenditures as a percent of
20 the moneys appropriated for a fiscal year for purposes of this
21 section shall not exceed two percent.

22 b. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys appropriated to
23 the authority by the general assembly for purposes of this
24 section that remain unencumbered or unobligated at the end of
25 the fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund but shall
26 remain available for expenditure for the purposes designated in
27 subsequent fiscal years.

28 DIVISION III

29 FUTURE READY IOWA — VARIOUS PROGRAMS

30 Sec. 5. Section 15H.1A, Code 2018, is amended by adding the
31 following new subsection:

32 NEW SUBSECTION. 1A. “*Commission*” means the Iowa commission
33 on volunteer service created in section 15H.2.

34 Sec. 6. NEW SECTION. 15H.9 **Volunteer mentor program.**

35 1. Subject to an appropriation of funds by the general

1 assembly for this purpose, the commission shall establish a
2 volunteer mentor program to support implementation of the
3 future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar scholarship
4 and the future ready Iowa skilled workforce grant programs
5 created in sections 261.130 and 261.131. The commission, in
6 collaboration with the department of workforce development and
7 the college student aid commission, shall adopt rules pursuant
8 to chapter 17A to implement and administer the volunteer
9 mentor program, and shall establish standards, guidelines, and
10 expectations for a productive and appropriate relationship
11 between mentors and mentees, including helping students
12 meet the future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar
13 scholarship program or future ready Iowa skilled workforce
14 grant requirements, as appropriate; identify work-based
15 learning opportunities; and make career-related connections
16 that are advantageous to persons participating in the volunteer
17 mentor program.

18 2. The prospective volunteer mentor shall have successfully
19 passed a background investigation conducted by the division of
20 criminal investigation of the department of public safety and a
21 check of the national sex offender registry.

22 3. The commission shall enter into written agreements with
23 prospective mentors and mentees under the program. Under such
24 an agreement, prospective mentors and mentees agree to abide by
25 the standards, guidelines, and expectations established by the
26 commission pursuant to subsection 1.

27 4. The commission, in collaboration with the department of
28 workforce development and the college student aid commission,
29 and in cooperation with an eligible institution as defined
30 in section 261.130 or 261.131, as appropriate, shall assign
31 a student, who is a recipient of a future ready Iowa skilled
32 workforce last-dollar scholarship under section 261.130 or
33 a future ready Iowa skilled workforce grant under section
34 261.131, who requests the assignment of a mentor, and who
35 enters into an agreement under subsection 3, to a mentor

1 appropriate to the prospective mentee's field of study whenever
2 possible.

3 5. The commission shall maintain, and regularly update,
4 a list of the mentor and mentee pairings and the dates of
5 inception of the mentor and mentee pairings.

6 6. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys appropriated to the
7 economic development authority for allocation to the commission
8 for purposes of this section that remain unencumbered or
9 unobligated at the close of a fiscal year shall not revert but
10 shall remain available to be used for the purposes designated
11 in this section until the close of the succeeding fiscal year.

12 Sec. 7. Section 84A.1B, Code 2018, is amended by adding the
13 following new subsections:

14 NEW SUBSECTION. 13A. Create, and update as necessary, a
15 list of high-demand jobs statewide for purposes of the future
16 ready Iowa registered apprenticeship development program
17 created in section 15C.1, the summer youth intern pilot
18 program established under section 84A.12, the Iowa employer
19 innovation program established under section 84A.13, the
20 future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar scholarship
21 program established under section 261.130, the future ready
22 Iowa skilled workforce grant program established under section
23 261.131, and postsecondary summer classes for high school
24 students as provided under section 261E.8, subsection 7A.
25 The workforce development board shall have full discretion
26 to select and prioritize high-demand jobs after consulting
27 with business and education stakeholders, as appropriate, and
28 seeking public comment. For purposes of this subsection,
29 "*high-demand job*" means a job in the state for which the board
30 determines work opportunities are available and qualified
31 applicants are lacking.

32 NEW SUBSECTION. 13B. Compile an annual report, in an
33 aggregate form to protect the confidentiality of each eligible
34 program's participants, that includes the number of students
35 receiving scholarships under section 261.130, the number of

1 students receiving grants under section 261.131, the number
2 of scholarship and grant recipients completing a program
3 of study or major annually and in the prescribed timeframe
4 under sections 261.130 and 261.131, the number of eligible
5 institutions participating in the scholarship and grant
6 programs established under sections 261.130 and 261.131, the
7 number of written agreements entered into by the volunteer
8 mentor program under section 15H.9, statistics on employment
9 outcomes for future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar
10 scholarship and future ready Iowa skilled workforce grant
11 program participants by industry, and other data as may be
12 deemed pertinent by the department or the college student aid
13 commission. The department shall submit the initial report by
14 January 15, 2021, and by January 15 annually thereafter, to the
15 governor and the general assembly.

16 Sec. 8. Section 84A.5, subsection 7, Code 2018, is amended
17 by adding the following new paragraph:

18 NEW PARAGRAPH. *0d.* The Iowa employer innovation program
19 established under section 84A.13.

20 Sec. 9. Section 84A.6, subsection 4, Code 2018, is amended
21 by striking the subsection.

22 Sec. 10. NEW SECTION. **84A.12 Summer youth intern pilot**
23 **program.**

24 1. A summer youth intern pilot program is established
25 within the department of workforce development to provide
26 youths who are at risk of not graduating from high school,
27 who are from low-income households, who are from communities
28 underrepresented in the Iowa workforce, or who otherwise face
29 barriers to success and upward mobility in the labor market,
30 with internship opportunities that allow these youths to
31 explore and prepare for high-demand careers, to gain work
32 experience, and to develop personal attributes necessary to
33 succeed in the workplace.

34 2. Subject to an appropriation of funds by the general
35 assembly for this purpose, the department of workforce

1 development shall award grants for summer youth intern
2 pilot projects on a competitive basis as provided in this
3 section. The department shall work with employers, nonprofit
4 organizations, and educational institutions to place youth in
5 internships primarily in high-demand career fields.

6 3. The department of workforce development shall annually
7 issue a request for proposals to the public, specifying the
8 expectations and requirements for summer youth intern pilot
9 project grant qualification, including but not limited to the
10 provision of facilities, programming, staffing, and outcomes.

11 4. The department of workforce development shall give
12 full and fair consideration to each proposal submitted under
13 subsection 3, and shall award grants after considering, at a
14 minimum, the following:

15 a. The bidder's history and experience in the community.

16 b. The capacity to serve a substantial number of youth.

17 c. The suitability of the available facilities.

18 d. The bidder's contacts and partnerships in the community
19 that can be leveraged to maximize opportunity for project
20 participants.

21 e. The capacity to provide employability skills, including
22 but not limited to training relating to soft skills, financial
23 literacy, and career development.

24 Sec. 11. NEW SECTION. 84A.13 Iowa employer innovation
25 program — fund.

26 1. For purposes of this section, "high-demand job" means a
27 job identified by the workforce development board pursuant to
28 section 84A.1B, subsection 13A, as a high-demand job.

29 2. Subject to an appropriation of funds by the general
30 assembly for this purpose, the Iowa employer innovation program
31 is established in the department of workforce development.
32 The department shall administer the program in consultation
33 with the workforce development board. The purpose of the
34 Iowa employer innovation program is to expand opportunities
35 for credit and noncredit education and training leading to

1 high-demand jobs for the residents of Iowa and to encourage
2 Iowa employers, community leaders, and others to provide
3 leadership and support for regional workforce talent pools
4 throughout the state.

5 3. The department of workforce development shall adopt
6 rules under chapter 17A establishing a program application and
7 award process to match employer moneys and the criteria for
8 the allocation of moneys in the fund established pursuant to
9 subsection 4. An employer, employer consortium, community
10 organization, or other entity seeking matching moneys shall
11 submit an application and a proposal to the department. In
12 awarding matching moneys, the department shall take into
13 account various factors, including but not limited to all of
14 the following:

15 a. The range of high-demand jobs, innovative measures, and
16 geographic fairness and equity included in the proposal.

17 b. Whether the proposal increases the number of eligible
18 students receiving financial assistance under the future ready
19 Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar scholarship or future
20 ready Iowa skilled workforce grant programs established under
21 sections 261.130 and 261.131; or increases the donation of
22 books, transportation, child care, and other wrap-around
23 support to assist eligible students receiving financial
24 assistance under section 261.130 or 261.131.

25 c. Whether the proposal includes performance-based
26 bonuses paid when high school students earn national
27 industry-recognized credentials aligned with high-demand jobs
28 that meet regional workforce needs.

29 d. Whether the proposal expands internships leading to
30 high-demand jobs.

31 e. Whether the proposal offers innovative ways of expanding
32 opportunities for credit and noncredit education and training
33 leading to high-demand jobs.

34 4. An Iowa employer innovation fund is created in the
35 state treasury as a separate fund under the control of the

1 department of workforce development, in consultation with the
2 workforce development board. The fund shall consist of any
3 moneys appropriated by the general assembly and any other
4 moneys available to and obtained or accepted by the department
5 from the federal government. The assets of the fund shall be
6 used by the department only for purposes of this section. All
7 moneys deposited or paid into the fund are appropriated and
8 made available to the board to be used for purposes of this
9 section. Notwithstanding section 8.33, any balance in the fund
10 on June 30 of each fiscal year shall not revert to the general
11 fund of the state, but shall be available for purposes of this
12 section in subsequent fiscal years.

13 Sec. 12. Section 261.130, Code 2018, is amended by striking
14 the section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

15 **261.130 Future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar**
16 **scholarship program.**

17 1. *Definitions.* As used in this section, unless the context
18 otherwise requires:

19 a. "*Commission*" means the college student aid commission.

20 b. "*Credential*" means a postsecondary certificate, diploma,
21 or degree, conferring no more than an associate degree, awarded
22 by an eligible institution and earned in a program of study
23 that leads to a high-demand job and is authorized for federal
24 student aid under Tit. IV of the federal Higher Education Act
25 of 1965, as amended.

26 c. "*Eligible institution*" means a community college as
27 defined in section 260C.2 or an accredited private institution
28 as defined in section 261.9, that meets all of the following
29 criteria:

30 (1) Applies to and is approved by the commission to
31 participate in the future ready Iowa skilled workforce
32 last-dollar scholarship program.

33 (2) Requires eligible students to complete and file
34 application forms required by the commission, apply for
35 all available state and federal financial aid, apply to the

1 eligible institution to participate in the program, attend
2 orientation in person or virtually, register for classes
3 with the assistance of an academic advisor, and participate
4 in academic and career advising sessions offered under the
5 program.

6 (3) Facilitates, in collaboration with the commission on
7 volunteer service created in section 15H.2, the assignment
8 of a volunteer mentor to each eligible student, based on the
9 eligible student's interest. The volunteer mentor shall have
10 successfully passed a background investigation and a check of
11 the national sex offender registry as required under section
12 15H.9, subsection 2, and both the eligible student and the
13 volunteer mentor shall have entered into a written agreement as
14 provided in section 15H.9, subsection 3.

15 (4) Facilitates connections through campus career centers
16 and services to internships and similar local, state, and
17 federal programs.

18 (5) Markets the eligible institution's future ready Iowa
19 program of study and optional incentives, which may include
20 but not be limited to credit for military experience, on the
21 eligible institution's internet site and to other relevant
22 agencies and organizations as recommended by the college
23 student aid commission, the commission on volunteer service, or
24 the department of workforce development.

25 (6) Submits annually information and data regarding the
26 eligible program operated by the eligible institution, the
27 students and volunteer mentors participating in the eligible
28 program, scholarship recipient eligible program completion
29 results, and statistics on employment outcomes for eligible
30 program participants by industry, to the commission in the
31 manner required by the commission.

32 *d. "Eligible program"* means a program of study or an
33 academic major jointly approved by the commission and the
34 department of workforce development, in consultation with an
35 eligible institution, that leads to a credential aligned with

1 a high-demand job designated by the workforce development
2 board pursuant to section 84A.1B, subsection 13A. If the
3 department removes a high-demand job from the list created
4 under section 84A.1B, subsection 13A, an eligible student who
5 received a scholarship for a program based on that high-demand
6 job shall continue to receive the scholarship until achieving
7 a postsecondary credential, up to an associate degree, as
8 long as the student continues to meet all other eligibility
9 requirements.

10 *e. "Eligible student"* means an Iowa resident who meets all
11 of the following requirements:

12 (1) Is either a new graduate of an Iowa high school who
13 enrolls full-time in an eligible program at an eligible
14 institution by the fall semester, or the equivalent,
15 following graduation from high school or completion of private
16 instruction under chapter 299A; or is an adult learner who has
17 received a high school diploma or a high school equivalency
18 diploma, who enrolls in an eligible program in an eligible
19 institution as a full-time or part-time student.

20 (2) Completes and submits application forms required by the
21 commission, including the free application for federal student
22 aid; applies for all available state and federal financial
23 aid; attends orientation in person or virtually; registers
24 for classes with the assistance of an academic advisor;
25 and participates in academic and career advising sessions
26 required under the eligible program. To receive a renewal of
27 a scholarship awarded under this section, an eligible student
28 must annually submit a new application to the commission for
29 reevaluation of eligibility.

30 (3) Is making satisfactory academic progress as defined by
31 the eligible institution.

32 (4) Remains continuously enrolled unless granted a leave of
33 absence by the eligible institution based on criteria adopted
34 by rule by the commission.

35 *f. "Full-time"* means enrollment in at least twelve semester

1 hours or the equivalent.

2 *g.* "Part-time" means enrollment in at least six but less
3 than twelve semester hours or the equivalent.

4 2. *Allowable activities.* An eligible student may work
5 with an assigned volunteer mentor to help the student meet the
6 requirements of this section or the requirements of an eligible
7 program, identify and participate in work-based learning
8 opportunities with the approval of the eligible institution,
9 and make other career-related connections.

10 3. *Scholarship limitations — requirements.*

11 *a.* For an eligible student who is attending an eligible
12 institution that is a community college during the fall,
13 spring, or summer term of enrollment, and is pursuing a
14 postsecondary credential up to an associate degree, the annual
15 amount of a future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar
16 scholarship, when combined with other state and federal
17 nonrepayable student aid, shall not exceed an amount equivalent
18 to the tuition and any mandatory institution-wide fees charged
19 by the community college for the eligible program. For an
20 eligible student pursuing a postsecondary credential up to
21 an associate degree at an eligible institution that is an
22 accredited private institution during the fall, spring, or
23 summer term of enrollment, the annual amount of a future ready
24 Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar scholarship, when combined
25 with other state and federal nonrepayable student aid, shall
26 not exceed an amount equivalent to the average tuition rate
27 plus the average institution-wide mandatory fees charged during
28 the same term of enrollment by the eligible institutions that
29 are community colleges.

30 *b.* If an eligible student receives nonrepayable financial
31 aid under any other state or federal program, the full amount
32 of that aid shall be considered part of the student's available
33 financial resources before determining the amount of the
34 student's future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar
35 scholarship for the same period during which the student

1 receives other state or federal financial aid. However, each
2 eligible student enrolled full-time in an eligible program
3 shall receive at least five hundred dollars annually, and the
4 amount received by each eligible part-time student shall be
5 the same amount prorated by the commission based on the number
6 of semester hours, or the equivalent, for which the part-time
7 student is enrolled.

8 *c.* A full-time eligible student may receive a future
9 ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar scholarship for
10 not more than five semesters, or the equivalent, or until
11 the eligible student earns the credential sought, up to an
12 associate degree, under the program, whichever occurs first.
13 A part-time eligible student may receive the scholarship for
14 not more than eight semesters, or the equivalent, on a prorated
15 basis, or until the eligible student earns the credential
16 sought, up to an associate degree, under the eligible program,
17 whichever occurs first. All classes identified by an eligible
18 institution as required for completion of the eligible program
19 by the eligible student shall be considered required under the
20 eligible program for purposes of this section.

21 *d.* A future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar
22 scholarship shall be awarded on an annual basis, requiring
23 reapplication by an eligible student each year. Scholarship
24 payments shall be allocated equally among the semesters, or
25 the equivalent, and paid upon certification by the eligible
26 institution that the student meets the requirements of
27 subsection 1, paragraph "e".

28 *e.* If a scholarship recipient discontinues attendance before
29 the end of any semester, or the equivalent, after receiving
30 scholarship payments, the entire amount of any refund due
31 that recipient, up to the full amount of all of the annual
32 scholarship payments made, shall be paid by the eligible
33 institution to the commission. A scholarship recipient,
34 who is not approved for a leave of absence by the eligible
35 institution, who discontinues attendance before the end of a

1 semester, or the equivalent, is ineligible to receive future
2 scholarships under this section.

3 4. *Commission's duties and responsibilities.* Subject to an
4 appropriation of funds by the general assembly for purposes of
5 this section, the commission shall administer the future ready
6 Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar scholarship program and
7 shall do all of the following:

8 a. Provide application forms for distribution to students by
9 high schools and eligible institutions.

10 b. Adopt rules under chapter 17A, in collaboration with
11 the department of workforce development, for administration of
12 this section, including but not limited to establishing the
13 duties and responsibilities of eligible institutions under the
14 program; defining residence and satisfactory academic progress
15 for purposes of the program; and establishing procedures
16 for scholarship application, processing, and approval. The
17 rules shall provide for determining the priority awarding of
18 scholarships if funds available for purposes of this section
19 are insufficient to pay all eligible students. Priority shall
20 be given to fully awarding each eligible student approved for a
21 scholarship rather than to prorating scholarship awards among
22 all eligible students.

23 c. Approve and award future ready Iowa skilled workforce
24 last-dollar scholarships on an annual basis.

25 d. Transmit to the department of workforce development the
26 compilation of information, data, and statistics submitted in
27 accordance with subsection 1, paragraph "c", subparagraph (6),
28 for the annual report required under section 84A.1B.

29 5. *Fund created.* A future ready Iowa skilled workforce
30 last-dollar scholarship fund is created in the state treasury
31 as a separate fund under the control of the commission. All
32 moneys deposited or paid into the fund are appropriated and
33 made available to the commission to be used for scholarships
34 awarded as provided under this section. Notwithstanding
35 section 8.33, any balance in the fund on June 30 of each fiscal

1 year shall not revert to the general fund of the state, but
2 shall be available for purposes of this section in subsequent
3 fiscal years.

4 Sec. 13. NEW SECTION. 261.131 Future ready Iowa skilled
5 workforce grant program.

6 1. *Definitions.* As used in this section, unless the context
7 otherwise requires:

8 a. "*Commission*" means the college student aid commission.

9 b. "*Eligible institution*" means an institution of higher
10 learning governed by the state board of regents or an
11 accredited private institution as defined in section 261.9,
12 that meets all of the following criteria:

13 (1) Applies to and is approved by the commission to
14 participate in the future ready Iowa skilled workforce grant
15 program.

16 (2) Requires eligible students to complete and file
17 application forms required by the commission, apply for
18 all available state and federal financial aid, apply to the
19 eligible institution to participate in the program, attend
20 orientation in person or virtually, register for classes
21 with the assistance of an academic advisor, and participate
22 in academic and career advising sessions required under the
23 program.

24 (3) Certifies that prior to participating in the program
25 an eligible student has earned at least half of the credits
26 necessary for a bachelor's degree and is able to complete a
27 bachelor's degree in an eligible program of study or academic
28 major leading to a designated high-demand job in the prescribed
29 grant time frame.

30 (4) Facilitates the assignment of a volunteer mentor to each
31 eligible student based on the eligible student's interest. The
32 volunteer mentor shall have successfully passed a background
33 investigation and a check of the national sex offender
34 registry as required under section 15H.9, subsection 2, and
35 both the eligible student and the volunteer mentor shall have

1 entered into a written agreement as provided in section 15H.9,
2 subsection 3.

3 (5) Facilitates connections through campus career centers
4 and services to internships and similar local, state, and
5 federal programs.

6 (6) Markets the eligible institution's eligible program and
7 optional incentives, which may include but not be limited to
8 credit for military experience, on the eligible institution's
9 internet site and to other relevant agencies and organizations
10 as recommended by the college student aid commission, the
11 commission on volunteer service, or the department of workforce
12 development.

13 (7) Submits annually information and data regarding the
14 eligible program operated by the eligible institution, the
15 students and volunteer mentors participating in the eligible
16 program, and statistics on employment outcomes for eligible
17 program participants by industry, to the commission in the
18 manner required by the commission.

19 *c. "Eligible program"* means a program of study or an
20 academic major jointly approved by the commission and the
21 department of workforce development, in consultation with the
22 eligible institution, that leads to a bachelor's degree aligned
23 with a high-demand job designated by the workforce development
24 board pursuant to section 84A.1B, subsection 13A. If the
25 department removes a high-demand job from the list created
26 under section 84A.1B, subsection 13A, an eligible student
27 who received a grant for a program based on that high-demand
28 job shall continue to receive the grant until achieving a
29 bachelor's degree as long as the student continues to meet all
30 other eligibility requirements.

31 *d. "Eligible student"* means an Iowa resident who meets all
32 of the following requirements:

33 (1) Has earned at least half of the credits necessary for a
34 bachelor's degree and is able to complete a bachelor's degree
35 in an eligible program of study or academic major leading to a

1 designated high-demand job in the prescribed grant time frame.

2 (2) Completes and submits application forms required by the
3 commission, including the free application for federal student
4 aid; applies for all available state and federal financial
5 aid; attends orientation in person or virtually; registers
6 for classes with the assistance of an academic advisor; and
7 participates in academic and career advising sessions required
8 under the eligible program. To receive a renewal of a grant
9 awarded under this section, an eligible student must annually
10 submit a new application to the commission for reevaluation of
11 eligibility.

12 (3) Has not been enrolled in postsecondary education
13 during the twenty-four months preceding the date on which the
14 commission receives the individual's application to participate
15 in the program.

16 (4) Enrolls in at least six semester hours, or the
17 equivalent, in an eligible program. However, an eligible
18 student may enroll in fewer than six semester hours, or the
19 equivalent, if the eligible student needs fewer than six
20 semester hours of credit, or the equivalent, to achieve a
21 bachelor's degree under the eligible program.

22 (5) Is making satisfactory academic progress as defined by
23 the eligible institution.

24 (6) Remains continuously enrolled unless granted a leave of
25 absence by the eligible institution based on criteria adopted
26 by rule by the commission.

27 *e. "Full-time"* means enrollment in at least twelve semester
28 hours or the equivalent.

29 *f. "Part-time"* means enrollment in at least six but less
30 than twelve semester hours or the equivalent.

31 2. *Allowable activities.* An eligible student may work
32 with an assigned volunteer mentor to help the student meet the
33 requirements of this section or the requirements of an eligible
34 program, identify and participate in work-based learning
35 opportunities with the approval of the eligible institution,

1 and make other career-related connections.

2 3. *Grant limitations — requirements.*

3 a. A full-time eligible student may receive a future ready
4 Iowa skilled workforce grant annually for not more than four
5 semesters, or the equivalent, or until the eligible student
6 earns a bachelor's degree under the program, whichever occurs
7 first. A part-time eligible student may receive the grant for
8 not more than eight semesters, or the equivalent, on a prorated
9 basis, or until the eligible student earns a bachelor's degree
10 under the eligible program, whichever occurs first.

11 b. The amount of a future ready Iowa skilled workforce grant
12 to a full-time eligible student shall be at least one thousand
13 dollars annually. The amount of a future ready Iowa skilled
14 workforce grant to a part-time eligible student shall be equal
15 to the amount that would be awarded to a full-time student
16 except that the commission shall prorate the amount based on
17 the recipient student's semester hour or equivalent enrollment.

18 c. A future ready Iowa skilled workforce grant shall be
19 awarded on an annual basis, requiring reapplication by an
20 eligible student each year. Payments under the grant shall be
21 allocated equally among the semesters, or the equivalent, and
22 paid upon certification by the eligible institution that the
23 student meets the requirements of subsection 1, paragraph "d".

24 d. If a grant recipient discontinues attendance before the
25 end of any semester, or the equivalent, after receiving grant
26 payments, the entire amount of any refund due that recipient,
27 up to the full amount of all annual grant payments made, shall
28 be paid by the eligible institution to the commission.

29 4. *Commission's duties and responsibilities.* Subject to an
30 appropriation of funds by the general assembly for purposes of
31 this section, the commission shall administer the future ready
32 Iowa skilled workforce grant program and shall do all of the
33 following:

34 a. Provide application forms for distribution to students by
35 eligible institutions.

1 *b.* Adopt rules under chapter 17A, in collaboration with
2 the department of workforce development, for administration of
3 this section, including but not limited to establishing the
4 duties and responsibilities of eligible institutions under the
5 program; defining residence and satisfactory academic progress
6 for purposes of the program; and establishing procedures for
7 grant application, processing, and approval. The rules shall
8 provide for determining the priority awarding of grants if
9 funds available for purposes of this section are insufficient
10 to pay all eligible students. Priority shall be given to fully
11 awarding each eligible student approved for a grant rather than
12 to prorating grant awards among all eligible students.

13 *c.* Approve and award grants on an annual basis.

14 *d.* Transmit to the department of workforce development the
15 compilation of information, data, and statistics submitted in
16 accordance with subsection 1, paragraph "b", subparagraph (7),
17 for the annual report required under section 84A.1B.

18 5. *Fund created.* A future ready Iowa skilled workforce
19 grant fund is created in the state treasury as a separate fund
20 under the control of the commission. All moneys deposited or
21 paid into the fund are appropriated and made available to the
22 commission to be used for grants awarded as provided under this
23 section. Notwithstanding section 8.33, any balance in the fund
24 on June 30 of each fiscal year shall not revert to the general
25 fund of the state, but shall be available for purposes of this
26 section in subsequent fiscal years.

27 Sec. 14. Section 261E.8, Code 2018, is amended by adding the
28 following new subsection:

29 NEW SUBSECTION. 7A. Subject to an appropriation of funds
30 by the general assembly for this purpose, the department shall
31 establish a program to provide additional funds for resident
32 high school pupils enrolled in grades nine through twelve to
33 attend a community college for college-level classes or attend
34 a class taught by a community college-employed instructor
35 through a contractual agreement between a community college and

1 a school district that satisfies the requirements for classes
2 under section 257.11, subsection 3, except that the classes
3 eligible for funding under this program are offered during the
4 summer and outside of the regular school year and are aligned
5 with career pathways leading to postsecondary credentials
6 and high-demand jobs designated by the workforce development
7 board created in section 84A.1B. A community college shall
8 not charge students tuition for a class offered partially
9 or completely outside of the regular school year under this
10 program.

11 Sec. 15. EFFECTIVE DATE. This division of this Act takes
12 effect July 1, 2019.

13 EXPLANATION

14 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
15 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

16 This bill relates to workforce development by establishing
17 a volunteer mentoring program, a registered apprenticeship
18 development program, an employer innovation fund, a summer
19 youth intern program, and future ready Iowa skilled workforce
20 scholarship and grant programs and funds, and providing for
21 shared postsecondary summer classes for high school students
22 that are aligned with career pathways. The bill also makes
23 conforming changes.

24 DIVISION I — TITLE OF ACT. The bill provides that it may be
25 known and cited as the "Future Ready Iowa Act".

26 DIVISION II — FUTURE READY IOWA REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP
27 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. Subject to an appropriation of funds
28 by the general assembly for this purpose, the bill creates
29 a future ready Iowa registered apprenticeship development
30 program, to be administered by the economic development
31 authority, to provide financial assistance meant to incentivize
32 small and medium-sized apprenticeship sponsors to establish
33 new or additional eligible apprenticeable occupations to
34 support the growth of apprenticeships and expand high-quality
35 work-based learning experiences in high-demand fields and

1 careers.

2 The bill includes definitions relating to apprenticeships
3 that correspond to U.S. department of labor standards.

4 However, "eligible apprenticeable occupation" means those
5 identified by the Iowa workforce development board as a
6 high-demand job in consultation with the authority.

7 To receive financial assistance, an apprenticeship sponsor
8 must demonstrate how the program's financial assistance would
9 be used.

10 An apprenticeship sponsor is eligible to apply for financial
11 assistance for a new or additional apprenticeable occupation in
12 the apprenticeship sponsor's apprenticeship program if 20 or
13 fewer apprentices are in the existing apprenticeship program
14 and more than 70 percent of the applicant's apprentices are
15 Iowa residents.

16 An apprenticeship sponsor is ineligible to receive financial
17 assistance from this program and the apprenticeship training
18 program established under Code chapter 15B during the same
19 fiscal year.

20 The authority's administrative expenditures shall not exceed
21 2 percent of the moneys appropriated for a fiscal year for
22 purposes of the program. Moneys appropriated for the program
23 carry over for use in subsequent fiscal years.

24 DIVISION III — VOLUNTEER MENTOR PROGRAM. Subject to an
25 appropriation by the general assembly, the commission on
26 volunteer service shall establish a volunteer mentor program
27 to support implementation of the future ready Iowa skilled
28 workforce last-dollar scholarship and the future ready Iowa
29 skilled workforce grant programs. The commission must adopt
30 rules to implement and administer the program and establish
31 standards, guidelines, and expectations for a productive and
32 appropriate relationship between mentors and mentees, which
33 must be part of the required written agreements between mentors
34 and mentees.

35 A prospective volunteer mentor must have successfully passed

1 a background investigation and a check of the national sex
2 offender registry. The mentor assigned to a prospective mentee
3 must be appropriate to the prospective mentee's field of study
4 whenever possible.

5 Moneys appropriated for purposes of the program may carry
6 over to the succeeding fiscal year for purposes of the program.

7 STATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD — HIGH-DEMAND JOBS AND
8 ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT. The state workforce development board
9 is directed to create and update a list of high-demand jobs
10 statewide for purposes of the future ready Iowa registered
11 apprenticeship development program, the summer youth intern
12 pilot program, the Iowa employer innovation program, the
13 future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar scholarship
14 program, the future ready Iowa skilled workforce grant program,
15 and postsecondary summer classes for high school students.
16 The board has full discretion to select and prioritize
17 high-demand jobs, but must consult with business and education
18 stakeholders, and seek public comment. "High-demand job"
19 is defined to mean a job in the state for which the board
20 determines work opportunities are available and qualified
21 applicants are lacking.

22 The board must also compile and submit an annual report
23 relating to participation in the programs to the governor and
24 the general assembly.

25 SUMMER YOUTH INTERN PROGRAM. A summer youth intern program
26 is established within the department of workforce development
27 to promote learning by providing internship opportunities
28 that allow youths who are at risk of not graduating from high
29 school, are from low-income households, are from communities
30 underrepresented in the Iowa workforce, or otherwise face
31 barriers to success and upward mobility in the labor market,
32 to explore and prepare for high-demand careers, to gain work
33 experience, and to develop personal attributes necessary to
34 succeed in the workplace.

35 Subject to an appropriation of funds by the general assembly

1 for this purpose, the department shall award grants for summer
2 youth intern pilot projects on a competitive basis and work
3 with employers, nonprofits, and educational institutions to
4 place youth in internships primarily in high-demand career
5 fields. The department must annually issue a request for
6 proposals to the public specifying the expectations and
7 requirements for summer youth intern pilot project grant
8 qualification. The bill specifies what the department must
9 consider before awarding a grant.

10 IOWA EMPLOYER INNOVATION PROGRAM AND FUND. Subject to an
11 appropriation by the general assembly for this purpose, an Iowa
12 employer innovation program is established in the department
13 of workforce development to expand opportunities for credit
14 and noncredit education and training leading to high-demand
15 jobs for the residents of Iowa and to encourage Iowa employers,
16 community leaders, and others to provide leadership and support
17 for regional workforce talent pools throughout the state.

18 An employer, employer consortium, community organization, or
19 other entity seeking matching moneys must submit an application
20 and a proposal to the department. The bill describes the
21 factors the department must take into account in awarding
22 matching moneys.

23 An Iowa employer innovation fund is created in the state
24 treasury under the control of the department. Moneys in the
25 fund carry over for use in subsequent fiscal years.

26 FUTURE READY IOWA SKILLED WORKFORCE LAST-DOLLAR SCHOLARSHIP
27 PROGRAM. A future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar
28 scholarship shall be administered by the college student aid
29 commission subject to an appropriation of funds by the general
30 assembly for the program. An Iowa resident, who may be a new
31 high school graduate or adult learner, at a participating
32 community college or accredited private institution is
33 eligible for a scholarship if the student is enrolled in an
34 eligible program of study leading to a certificate, diploma, or
35 associate degree aligned with a high-demand job as designated

1 by the state workforce development board. A full-time eligible
2 student may receive a scholarship for not more than five
3 semesters, or the semester equivalent, or until the eligible
4 student earns a postsecondary credential up to an associate
5 degree under the program, whichever occurs first. A part-time
6 eligible student may receive the scholarship on a prorated
7 basis for not more than eight semesters or until earning a
8 postsecondary credential up to an associate degree, whichever
9 occurs first.

10 For an eligible student attending a community college,
11 the annual amount of the scholarship, when combined with
12 other state and federal nonrepayable student aid, shall not
13 exceed an amount equivalent to the tuition and any mandatory
14 institution-wide fees charged by the community college for
15 the eligible program. For an eligible student pursuing an
16 associate degree at an accredited private institution, the
17 annual amount of the scholarship, when combined with other
18 state and federal nonrepayable student aid, shall not exceed an
19 amount equivalent to the average tuition rate plus the average
20 institution-wide mandatory fees charged during the same term
21 of enrollment by eligible community colleges. Each full-time
22 eligible student shall receive at least \$500 annually, with
23 part-time students receiving a prorated amount.

24 If a scholarship recipient discontinues attendance before
25 the end of any semester, and is not approved for a leave of
26 absence by the institution, any annual refund due shall be
27 paid by the eligible institution to the commission, and the
28 recipient is ineligible to receive future scholarships under
29 the program.

30 The bill tasks the commission with adopting rules, including
31 for the priority awarding of scholarships if funds are
32 insufficient to pay all eligible students.

33 The future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar
34 scholarship fund is created in the state treasury under the
35 control of the commission. Moneys in the fund carry over for

1 use in subsequent fiscal years.

2 FUTURE READY IOWA SKILLED WORKFORCE GRANT PROGRAM. Subject
3 to an appropriation by the general assembly for the program,
4 the future ready Iowa skilled workforce grant shall be
5 administered by the college student aid commission. An Iowa
6 resident who for two years preceding application was not
7 enrolled in a postsecondary institution is eligible for a
8 grant if the person has earned half the credit needed for a
9 bachelor's degree and is enrolled in a participating regents
10 university or accredited private institution in an eligible
11 program that leads to a bachelor's degree aligned with a
12 high-demand job designated by the state workforce development
13 board. A full-time eligible student may receive a future ready
14 Iowa skilled workforce grant annually for not more than four
15 semesters or until the eligible student earns a bachelor's
16 degree under the program, whichever occurs first. A part-time
17 eligible student may receive the grant on a prorated basis.

18 The annual grant amount to a full-time eligible student
19 shall be at least \$1,000. The annual grant amount to a
20 part-time eligible student is prorated based on the recipient's
21 semester hour or equivalent enrollment.

22 The grant is awarded on an annual basis, requiring
23 reapplication by an eligible student each year.

24 If a grant recipient discontinues attendance before the end
25 of any semester, or the equivalent, the eligible institution
26 shall pay to the commission any refund due to the recipient up
27 to the full amount of annual grant payments made.

28 The commission must adopt rules, including the priority
29 awarding of grants if funds are insufficient to pay all
30 eligible students.

31 The future ready Iowa skilled workforce grant fund is
32 created in the state treasury as a separate fund under the
33 control of the commission. Moneys in the fund carry over for
34 use in subsequent fiscal years.

35 POSTSECONDARY SUMMER CLASSES FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.

1 Subject to an appropriation by the general assembly, the
2 department is directed to establish a program to provide
3 additional funds for resident high school pupils enrolled in
4 grades 9-12 to attend summer classes for postsecondary credit
5 under a contractual agreement between a community college and
6 a school district. The classes must be aligned with career
7 pathways leading to postsecondary credentials and high-demand
8 jobs. The bill prohibits a community college from charging a
9 pupil tuition for such a class.

10 EFFECTIVE DATE OF DIVISION III. Division III takes effect
11 July 1, 2019.