

**Senate File 2327 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 2327  
BY COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 3087)

(COMPANION TO LSB 5471HV BY  
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE)

**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.

S.F. 2327

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.