



# IOWA HOUSE DEMOCRATS

## BILL AND AMENDMENT SUMMARY

# Future Ready Iowa HF 2458

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**Status of Bill:** House Floor  
**Committee:** Commerce (16-7)  
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**Lead Democrats:** Rep Oldson, Rep Hall  
**Floor Manager:** Rep Cownie

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### Background

The Future Ready Iowa proposal is one of the Governor's priorities of the legislative session. HF 2458 is the recommendations of the Future Ready Alliance. The goal of the Future Ready Alliance is having 70% of Iowa's workforce with education or training beyond high school by the year 2025. The Future Ready Alliance was created with an executive order by former Governor Branstad.

### Summary

All of the following programs are created with the Future Ready Iowa Plan. It is important to note that they are all subject to appropriations by the General Assembly, without the proper funding most of these are just empty programs. The Governor's office estimates the cost's will \$2.6 million in FY 19 and \$18 million in FY 20.

#### Apprenticeship Programs

Creates the Future Ready Iowa apprenticeship development program under the Economic Development Authority (EDA). The creation of this program is subject to an appropriation of the General Assembly.

The stated goal of the program is to help with financial assistance to incentivize small and medium sized entities already operating an apprenticeship program to create new or more eligible apprenticeships within in their program to expand opportunities in high-demand work based learning experiences in high demand fields.

Programs are eligible to apply for financial assistance from the EDA. Programs can apply for both an existing and new program if all of the following conditions are met.

1. 20 or fewer apprentices are registered in the existing program as of December 31 of the current calendar year.
2. More than 70% of the programs apprentices are residents of Iowa.

#### Volunteer Mentor Program

The goal of the program is to support the last-dollar scholarship and the future ready Iowa skilled workforce grant programs.

The commission in collaborations of Department of Workforce Development, College Student Aid is required to adopt rules administer the program. Volunteers are paired up with recipients of the last dollar scholarship or workforce grant who requests a mentor.

#### Summer Youth Intern Pilot Program

Participants must be at risk of not graduating high school, from low income households, from communities underrepresented in the Iowa workforce, and who otherwise face upward mobility barriers. The program's goal is to help these individuals experience in high demand careers and gain work experience.

Workforce development is required to request proposals from the public for summer youth intern pilot programs and give full and fair consideration to each proposal before awarding grants.

The following must be considered before a grant is rewarded:

1. History and experience in the community.
2. Capacity to serve a substantial number of youths.
3. Suitability of the available facilities.
4. Contacts and partnerships to the community that can be leveraged to maximize opportunity.

### **Iowa Employer Innovation Program**

This program is created in the department of workforce development, with the goal of expanding opportunities for credit and non-credit education and training that lead to high-demand jobs for residents of Iowa.

The program is created to match employer moneys in an Iowa employer innovation fund in the state treasury that is under the purview of workforce development. When deciding who will be awarded money the department is to look at least the following factors.

1. Range of high demand jobs.
2. If the proposal increases the number of students under the last dollar scholarship or skilled work force grants. It can also increase the donation of books, transportation, child care, or other wrap around support.
3. If the proposals include performance based paid bonuses when a high school student earns national industry recognized credentials aligned with high demand jobs that meet regional workforce needs.
4. Whether it expands internships to leading to high demand jobs.
5. Innovative ways of expanding opportunities for credit and noncredit education and training leading to high demand jobs.

### **Last Dollar Scholarship Program**

The last dollar scholarship program is created to replace the skilled workforce tuition grant also known as the Kibbie Grants. The fund is created in the state treasury and under the control of the College Student Aid Commission.

The scholarship available for an Iowa resident who attends a community college or an accredited private institution that meets certain requirements, some of those requirements include:

- A new graduate of an Iowa high school or adult learner who has a high school diploma or equivalent who enrolls in an eligible institution full or part time.
- Is making satisfactory academic progress.

### **Future Ready Iowa Skilled Workforce Grant Program**

This grant program is for a state university or an accredited private institution that applies and is approved for the program. The grant fund is created in the state treasury under the control of the College Student Aid Commission.

In order to be approved, a program must meet certain requirements including but not limited to:

Ensuring students have completed at least half of the needed credits for a bachelor’s degree and is able to complete the degree in an eligible program or study or major in a high demand job in prescribed time frame of the grant as well the ability to match with a mentor, and facilitate connections.

A student in the program must be an Iowa resident.

**Summer Post-Secondary Class Options**

A program is created that allows high school student to attend a community college for college level instruction or taught by an instructor of a community college outside of the regular school year or during the summer.

**Workforce Development Board Responsibilities**

The responsibilities of the workforce development board are expanded to create a list of high demand jobs state for the apprentice program, the summer youth intern pilot program, the Iowa employer innovation program, the last dollar scholarship, workforce grant program, and postsecondary summer classes for high school students.

The board is also required to develop an annual report detailing the number of recipients in the various programs created in the legislation.

**Future Ready Iowa Duplicative Programs**

<b>Future Ready Iowa Proposal</b>	<b>Current Iowa Program</b>	<b># Iowans Served</b>	<b># Unserved</b>
Scholarship program targeted towards two-year degrees, disabled, low-income, ex-offenders.	Vocational Rehabilitation provides grants and services to educate the disabled.	2,418	104
Assistance to adult learners to go back to school to finish their “specific” degree started.	Gap assistance identify students’ skills and financial needs to fill in the “gap.” Helps adult learners to obtain “any” degree.	937	1,325
	Kibbie Grant provides assistance to students for two-year technical degrees.	4,416	10,817 * *(Many applicants ended up not attending college)
	Ex-offender programs provide training inside and outside the prison walls.	FY 2016 2,617	Unknown
“Volunteer” mentoring to help students find needed careers.	“Paid” PACE program workers are at Community Colleges provide this now.	3,310	1,504
Grant recipients perform volunteer service.	Iowa’s Americorps does volunteer service for future college financial assistance.	FY 2016 899	FY 2016, 1,049* *(Some may not meet requirements)
Create regional state pools to fund training for specific future job projects.	Iowa’s 260E program trains workers for specific future job projects.	FY 2016 5,090 jobs	Not relevant

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## **Amendment**

H-8253 by Best: In the original legislation, the Skilled Workforce Shortage Tuition Grant Program (Kibbe grants) are repealed and replaced with the Future Ready Iowa Skilled Workforce Grant Program. This amendment strikes the removal of the Kibbe Grants. Additionally, the amendment gives community colleges the ability to identify regional high demand jobs in the community college region, as well as the ability to remove high demand jobs.