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**Media Contact**

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### **Iowa Opens Applications for Employer Innovation Grants**

DES MOINES, IOWA – Governor Kim Reynolds today announced a \$1.2 million Future Ready Iowa grant opportunity for employers who are developing workforce solutions.

The Future Ready Iowa Employer Innovation Fund is designed to expand opportunities for Iowans to earn post-secondary credentials that lead to high-demand jobs. It does this by encouraging Iowa employers, community leaders, and others to collaborate to support regional workforce talent development.

“This program is a valuable investment in Iowa communities, and another great tool to address our state’s workforce challenges,” said Gov. Reynolds. “Iowa needs innovative approaches to boost economic activity in every city and small town. These grants reward good ideas that can help us grow our economy and continue to prosper and lead.”

Applications must be submitted on [IowaGrants.gov](http://IowaGrants.gov) by December 17, 2021. The grants require that any requested amount be matched with private investment. A \$1 private investment will be matched with \$1 from the state.

#### More details:

- Employers, employer consortiums, nonprofits, and educational institutions can apply.
- Applicants can request funding up to \$50,000.
- The Employer Innovation Fund can match private dollars.
- The funds can be used to support credit and non-credit programs, along with wraparound support programs such as transportation, equipment, and innovative technologies to help Iowans complete job training and education.

More information about the Employer Innovation Fund can be found at: [www.futurereadyiowa.gov/innovation](http://www.futurereadyiowa.gov/innovation).

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**An Equal Opportunity Employer/Program**

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities.

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