



# Preparing Iowa's Workforce

*Future Ready Iowa is the state's initiative to build Iowa's talent pipeline.*



## A HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION IS NOT ENOUGH

Finding workers with the right skills – especially for “skilled jobs” – is a growing challenge for Iowa businesses. Skilled jobs require more than a high school education and less than a four-year degree.

## FUTURE READY IOWA

### A CHALLENGING GOAL – 70% BY 2025

Iowa has set the goal of having 70 percent of its workforce have education or training beyond high school by 2025. To reach this goal, Iowa needs an additional 127,700 residents to earn postsecondary degrees and credentials by 2025.

### PREPARING WORKERS FOR HIGH-DEMAND JOBS

The initiative encourages Iowans to pursue high-demand jobs – jobs where the starting wage is at least \$17 per hour and have the highest percent growth or projected openings in the next 10 years.

### EDUCATION CORRELATES TO INCOME

Encouraging Iowans to get training and education beyond high school is good for Iowa's economy. Iowans with a high school diploma earned an average of \$35,000 annually between 2013 and 2015. That average increases to \$42,000 for an associate degree and jumps to \$60,015 for a bachelor's degree.

### SUPPORTS IOWA'S ECONOMY

Growing the number of Registered Apprenticeship Programs in Iowa and helping veterans get jobs in Iowa through Home Base Iowa will spur progress toward Iowa reaching its Future Ready Iowa goal.

## FUTURE READY IOWA WEBSITE

- Brings career development resources into one easy to access location
- Allows users evaluate and review different career options based on forecasted demand for those jobs in Iowa and then map out their path to achieve their goal
- Helps users identify any additional training needed for that career path as well as the financial resources available
- Gives users wage information by occupation and projected employment data
- Helps Iowans plan a career path based on jobs that are in demand and in the area someone wishes to live

Visit the website at [www.futurereadyiowa.gov](http://www.futurereadyiowa.gov)



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