

Iowa announces new grant awards to boost youth internships this summer



Governor Kim Reynolds announced new grant awards that will help expand the number of Iowa's youth participating in internships this summer.

A total of five employers are being awarded \$254,000 in grants to help support over 100 youth participating in summer internships in high-demand areas of the workforce. Iowa's Summer Youth Internship Program grants help Iowa's youth gain access to meaningful work experiences while they explore and discover promising careers in the state.

"The great benefit of summer internships is not only the work experience they create for our youth, but ultimately the skills and connections gained that make it more likely that they will stay and develop a long-term career in our state," said Governor Reynolds. "I applaud

the employers who are sponsoring these programs and finding ways to build their workforce using the talent found in our youth."

Projects providing opportunities for Iowa youth who face barriers to upward mobility in the labor market were prioritized during the review process. Grant funds are able to be used for participant wages, compensation after program completion, training resources, program supplies and materials, and administrative costs.

"Any time that Iowa employers are able to sponsor meaningful programs that provide on-the-job experience, a positive outcome usually follows that benefits our workforce," said Beth Townsend, Executive Director of Iowa Workforce Development. "I'm excited to help give a boost to these projects, which will help employers have extra talent this summer and help our youth see firsthand the great op-

portunities that await them across Iowa."

For more information on the grant, visit: <https://workforce.iowa.gov/opportunities/grants/summer-internships>.

REAL ID enforcement date approaching: What Iowans need to know

Starting on May 7, 2025, all travelers will need a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or identification card or another acceptable document (like a passport) to board domestic commercial flights. A REAL ID will also be required to access certain federal buildings or enter nuclear facilities. If you need clarification about entry into federal facilities, we recommend contacting the specific federal facility directly before your visit.

You do NOT need a REAL ID to:

- Drive
- Vote
- Purchase alcohol or cigarettes
- Access hospitals

- Visit the post office
 - Access federal courts
 - Apply for or receive federal benefits such as social security or veterans' benefits
- When to get a REAL ID:**

Iowans who fly commercially or visit certain federal buildings should obtain a REAL ID soon to avoid any issues or delays after the May 7, 2025 enforcement date. Appointments are highly encouraged and can be scheduled through the Iowa DOT Service Selector (or go to the Iowa Department of Transportation's website at iowadot.gov and search appointments).

If you are not flying or visiting a federal facility that requires a REAL ID until later in the year, you can wait to get your REAL ID. We strongly recommend getting it two months in advance of when you need to use it.

How to check if you have a REAL ID:

Check the upper-right corner of your driver's license or ID. If there is a gold star, you have a REAL ID. If the upper-right corner is blank or reads "NOT FOR

REAL ID ACT PURPOSES," then your ID is not REAL ID-compliant. For examples, visit the Iowa DOT REAL ID page (or go to the DOT's website at iowadot.gov and search REAL ID).

Need a REAL ID? Here's how to get one:

To obtain a REAL ID-compliant credential, visit the Iowa DOT REAL ID website (or go to the DOT's website at iowadot.gov and search REAL ID) for details on required documentation. This site will put together a checklist for you on the documents you need. To meet the federal requirements, just remember 1-1-2. You will need:

- 1 document that proves your identity and date of birth.
- 1 document that proves your social security number.
- 2 documents that prove Iowa residence and residential address.
- Name change documents (if applicable, marriage certificate/divorce decree, etc.).



Last week, I wrote about SF 619, Governor Reynolds' disaster and recovery bill that ensures the state is ready and able to respond quickly in the event of a disaster. On Tuesday of this week the bill became law, bringing aid to those impacted by flooding and tornadoes last year. Passing this bill was a team effort as it made its way through both chambers, several committees, and floor debate. It was an honor to join other Tuesday as Governor Reynolds signed SF 619 into law. Our thoughts, hearts and prayers continue for those affected and their families.

In the Iowa Senate, I floor-managed and the Senate passed SF 301, a bill permitting a county hospital's board of trustees to operate a child care facility. The bill provides for explicit authorization to operate a daycare. Today,

county hospitals can serve as a child care facility, but there was some confusion of how current code applies to all counties. This bill removes that confusion.

The Iowa Senate passed SF 233 that makes changes to Iowa's "Right to Try" Act. In the event that any Iowan is diagnosed with a rare disease, especially one that is life-threatening, this bill would increase access to alternative treatments that can provide hope in their diagnosis. This bill prioritizes our individual rights and freedoms to try potential life-saving treatments that may otherwise be unavailable to us in our current situation.

We also passed HF 933 known as "Mason's Law." This bill allows for the creation of "pediatric palliative care centers" to provide respite and hospice services for children with terminal or life-threatening illnesses expected to shorten their life expectancy not past 21 years of age. These are care centers that offer compas-

sionate support focused on enhancing the quality of life through the difficult battle children face in such circumstances. Inspired by a young boy named Mason, Mason's Law will have a long-standing impact that will help families focus on what is important as they manage and face these illnesses. Bills passed, small or large, can make a huge difference to so many lives.

The passage of SF 628 this week was the first Senate budget bill to go over to the House. As we head towards the end of this session, there is much left to do. Several large bills need to be addressed including property tax relief, energy policy, as well as next year's budget. As always, please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.

If you are planning to visit the Capitol, please let me know. The best way to reach me is by email at dave.rowley@legis.iowa.gov or by cell 712-330-5596.

Have a great week!

Community Calendar

Wednesday, April 30:
BCVFD Burger feed, Fire Station, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Guest night, First Reformed Church, 7 p.m.
Thursday, May 1:
55+ Card Club, Heritage Town Center, 1-3 p.m.
Crafts or Puzzles, Rake Public Library, 1:30
Kid's Club, Thompson Public Library, 4 p.m.
Varsity boys golf, Spring Valley Golf Course, 4:15 p.m.
Varsity girls/boys track, North Union, 4:30 p.m.
Friday, May 2:
Garage sales in the area
Happy Hour, Forest Plaza Assisted Living, 3-4 p.m.
7th/8th grade girls/boys track, North Iowa Sports Complex, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 3:
Garage sales in the area
Safety Fair, Forest City Public Library, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Weaver's Leather Store 100th anniversary celebra-

tion, Heritage Town Center, 4-8 p.m.
Monday, May 5:
City-wide clean-up day in Buffalo Center
Coffee, TMNH, 9:30 a.m.
North Iowa Food for Families, Congregational Parsonage, 2-4 p.m.
Varsity boys golf, Lake Mills, 4:15 p.m.
Varsity girls/boys track, West Hancock, 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 6:
Tiny Tots Storytime, Buffalo Center Public Library, 10 a.m.
7th/8th grade girls track, Algona, 4:30 p.m.
7th/8th grade boys track, Lake Mills, 4:30 p.m.
High School Spring Concert, NI Auditorium, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, May 7:
Buffalo Center Christian Women, Heritage Town Center, 9:30 a.m.

North Iowa Communities List of Events Save the Date

May 10
Emporium Furniture and Mattress, 30th Anniversary
June 16

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 21 meeting, Heritage Town Center, 3:45 p.m.
June 22
Local Antique Roadshow sponsored by the Historical Society, Heritage Town Center, program, 2 p.m.
June 29
Car, Bike and Truck Night, Old Fire Liquor

July 4
Fireworks, Bison Sports Complex, dusk
July 27
Car, Bike and Truck Night, Old Fire Liquor
August 17
Car, Bike and Truck Night, Old Fire Liquor



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American Legion Auxiliary

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 21 met on Monday, April 21 at 3:45 p.m. Ten members were present. President Illa Roth brought the meeting to order. All members recited the Pledge of Allegiance. President Roth gave the Standing Rules and mission statement.

Chaplain Donetta Black gave an opening prayer. She shared a reading and handed out fun fact sheets for everyone. No reports from the historian, education or correspondence chairpersons. Karen Kiewiet gave the secretary/treasurer report.

Old business discussed included the "High Tea" profit and expenses. A committee for the "High Tea" is to plan for the 2027 event, which would meet every other month. More discussion took place to give gift cards

or cash to those that worked at the "High Tea." All members agreed. Hours toward silver cord high school graduation were given to the senior high school students that helped.

New business: Roth, Kiewiet and Steinberg are attending the Kossuth County meeting in Titonka this week. Memorial Day is May 26. The scouts will be collecting Poppy donations from May 19-23. There will be a Poppy coloring contest for elementary students with awards for first and second place for each class.

Donations to other organizations were tabled to the next meeting, which will be at 3:45 on June 16 at the Heritage Town Center and hosted by Donetta Black.

Letter to the Editor Policy

The *Buffalo Center Tribune* welcomes the opinions of our readers in the form of letters to the editor, as long as the submissions are not in bad taste and refrain from attacking individuals without supporting documentation or a rational and legally defensible justification. In any event the newspaper reserves the sole discretion to decide whether or not a reader submission will be published. If your letter is selected it will be run on a single occasion and you agree to give us the right to publish it in print and digital form. The *Tribune* will not accept letters that are duplicated, reprinted, copied, or otherwise reproduced. Letters should be original, type-written or neatly handwritten. Letters should not exceed 300 words. Letters exceeding this length could be subject to editing and may not be published in their entirety.

The *Buffalo Center Tribune* does not as a general rule print form letters or letters which are also submitted to other newspapers. We are most interested in sincere personal views as opposed to canned publicity releases or talking

points for an individual or a cause, therefore if a writer cannot assure us that their submission is individual and personal, it may be rejected.

Your Letter to the Editor must include:

- Your full name with signature
- Your complete address
- Your telephone number

Your address and telephone number will not be printed in the newspaper, but will be used for verification by newspaper editorial staff.

Unsigned letters and letters containing personal attacks the newspaper deems to be of a libelous nature will not be published. The *Buffalo Center Tribune* reserves the right to end debate on a topic after both sides have had ample chance to express their views. The *Buffalo Center Tribune* reserves the right to edit or refuse all letters. All columns and letters on the opinion page are the views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the *Tribune*.

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The *Buffalo Center Tribune* strives for accurate and complete news reporting but occasionally we get it wrong. In cases where an error has been made we will run a correction, clarification, retraction or editor's note in the next edition. Our goal in any event is to inform readers of corrections clearly and quickly, citing the incorrect information and updating with the correct information.

All corrections will be printed on page 2 in the next issue published. The correction will denote the issue, article and incorrect information along with the correction. Digital corrections will also be made and an editor's note will be added to the bottom of the article in question noting what was inaccurate and noting when the article was amended. If the article was posted on Facebook, Twitter or any other online medium controlled by the *Buffalo Center Tribune*, a post will be made linking to the corrected article, noting the correction.



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9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday through Friday

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..... 9 a.m. Monday*
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..... 24 hours

*This news may not be published in the current issue.

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Mid-America Publishing

1-800-558-1244 133 Ext
Human Resources 132 Ext
Billing Department 122 Ext
Circulation Department
111 Ext Custom Print Department

Official newspaper for

Winnebago County,
City of Buffalo Center,
City of Rake,
City of Thompson,
City of Lakota,
North Iowa School District

Member of

Iowa Newspaper Assn.
National Newspaper Assn. A
Division of Mid-America Publishing Corp.
P.O. Box 29
Hampton IA 50441

Published weekly at 116 W K St., Forest City, IA and Periodicals Postage paid at Buffalo Center, IA 50424.

Postmaster: Send address changes to: Buffalo Center Tribune, PO Box 367, Buffalo Center, Iowa 50424

USPS #069-400