Plan Your Summer Teacher Externship Today
The Iowa STEM Teacher Externships Program aims to help teachers answer that age-old question, “When will I ever use this?” Teacher Externships are full-time, six-week temporary summer positions in local businesses and agencies for secondary teachers of mathematics, science and/or technology. Teachers earn a stipend of up to $4,800 (including two days of professional development), as well as one graduate credit through the University of Northern Iowa’s Continuing Education program.

Testimonials from past Externs:
By implementing the same tools and processes that I used in my experience at Workiva, I can prepare my students for the world of software development. – James Mills, Extern at Workiva

After having my STEM Externship experience, I know I will be more comfortable pushing technology onto students for budgeting projects, loan information and analysis, and delivering data. - Nathan Maiers, Extern at Barilla

During the summer, educators work side-by-side with knowledgeable and skilled industry employees who help bring the classroom curriculum to life. Teacher Externships provide educators with the exposure to answer questions about real-world application, prepare students for careers they may have in the future, and improve educational experiences.

You can learn more about STEM Teacher Externships here. For more information contact Externships@iastem.gov.

Changes to the STEM BEST® Application Timeline Benefits Schools
The Iowa STEM BEST® (Businesses Engaging Students and Teachers) Program funds the creation and refining of meaningful work-based learning experiences and activities in the K-12 educational arena. The Application Timeline has changed from previous years. The Application window will open on Feb. 10 for the 2020-2021 school year and Awardees will be announced in July.

Follow this link for more information on the STEM BEST® Program and the 63 partners.

Schedule a Visit with a STEM Manager Today!
What programs are on the 2020-2021 Scale-Up Menu?

How do I fill out a Scale-Up Application?

How do I “Get Started” on building a STEM Best Program and Application? (Yes, Elementary schools can apply too!)

How can I reach out to businesses to craft work-based STEM curriculum?

The STEM Regional Manager can walk you through all these questions and bring informational materials and even STEM equipment. Fill out this FORM to set up a meeting or contact Kelly at kbergman@iastate.edu.

Board Member, Kristle Percy, Views STEM as Opening Doors for Student’s Future
Kristle Percy shares an important message when working with students, “STEM is a part of our everyday lives and the possibilities are endless. Especially for those that thought certain careers are only for certain demographics, now is the time to see we need to break through those stereotypes.”

Ms. Percy is the Business Marketing Specialist with IowaWORKS in the Mason City Area, and a North Central STEM Advisory Board Member. She works with employers, community partners and area schools to provides employment services to the community. Prior to joining IowaWORKS, Ms. Percy had a career in Sales, Media and Management. “I was once told I would never amount to anything in life, and here I am in a great career, giving back and enjoying every day I go to work.”

When interacting with educators and youth, she highlights the many career pathways available after High School and the importance of acquiring postsecondary skills. As a member of the North Central STEM Advisory Board, she believes that STEM will open more doors for students in the future. She wants students to know there are no right or wrong answers. “For every roadblock, there is a new adventure.”

2019-20 NC STEM Advisory Board

Lindsey Falk, St. Ansgar
Ashley Flatebo, Garner
Doug Jacobson, Ames
Sara Nelson, Ames
Michael Pedersen, Marshalltown
Kristle Percy, Mason City
Kathy Rogotzke, Mason City
Sarah Rosenblum, Marshalltown
Camille Sloan Schroeder, Boone
Kerry Weig, Nevada
Nancy Woods, Boone
Michael Young, Ames
David Zrostlik, Garner

Upcoming Events:

January 21
2020-2021 STEM Scale-Up Application Opens
February 10
2020-2021 STEM BEST® Application Opens
February 19
STEM Day at the Capitol