

Iowa Businesses Asked to Take Survey About Work-Based Learning Participation

DES MOINES - Gov. Kim Reynolds encourages businesses to complete a survey gauging their interest in participating in work-based learning projects. Work-based learning is an educational strategy that provides students with real-life work experiences that allow them to apply academic and technical skills to develop their employability.

Information about how to complete the survey is being sent via U.S. Mail to over 40,000 businesses in Iowa with five or more employees starting the week of Jan. 14. The envelope is addressed to the company's president or CEO.

The survey is part of the work to establish the Iowa Clearinghouse for Work-Based Learning. On Jan. 29, 2018, the Governor signed Executive Order No. 1 to establish the Clearinghouse.

"I know this is a busy time for businesses, but it is important for this survey to be completed so the state can help businesses meet their employment needs," said Gov. Reynolds. "There is a shortage of skilled workers in Iowa and the Clearinghouse will help to expand work-based learning and meet our Future Ready Iowa goal of 70 percent of our workforce having education or training beyond high school by 2025."

The Clearinghouse is jointly coordinated by the Iowa Department of Education, AEA Learning Online and Iowa Workforce Development.

Businesses with less than five employees who would like to take the survey can contact Jake Welchans, Project Manager, at 515-281-5494 or jake.welchans@iowa.gov. Questions about the survey should also be directed to Welchans.