

Power Your Tech Career in Iowa



Iowa Tech Industry: By the Numbers

As technology evolves, so too does Iowa's development in the industry. Iowa has expanded its depth and knowledge in all facets of technology, from cybersecurity to information and data systems across every market. In the past decade, Iowa has bridged the gap between need and vision, to execution and success, providing Iowa businesses an influential voice in the national technology conversation.

92,000+

Iowans employed in tech jobs

81%

Higher median wage for tech jobs
vs. other occupations

1,000+

Tech jobs added in 2018

34,000+

Tech job postings in Iowa*

\$10.4+ BILLION

Economic impact
of tech sector in Iowa

Source: <https://www.comptia.org/newsroom/press-releases/2019/03/26/technology-employment-expands-its-presence-in-iowa-s-workforce>

Every Company is a Tech Company

Technology is weaved into the culture and fabric of every company in Iowa. Across the state, companies create and leverage technology to power agriculture, finance, insurance, healthcare, education, manufacturing, transportation, telecommunications and more. From healthcare advocates such as UnityPoint Health that work to revolutionize the outcomes of medical emergencies, to global precision agriculture leaders such as John Deere that develop innovative ways to make food more sustainable, companies in rural and urban areas are using technological advancements to guide Iowa forward.

There is a vast statewide network of incubators, accelerators, and coworking spaces designed to connect start-ups to the resources they need to grow and thrive. Organizations including Iowa Economic Development Authority and Next Level Ventures are committed to funding new companies and providing them the resources necessary to succeed. Coworking spaces such as Gravitare in Des Moines provide talent from all disciplines of tech the environment needed to imagine, create and execute.



AGRICULTURE

John Deere
Corteva
Sukup Manufacturing Co.



FINANCE

Principal Financial Group
FBL Financial
Bankers Trust



INSURANCE

Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield
Nationwide
CUNA Mutual



HEALTHCARE

UnityPoint Health
Radiology Consultants of Iowa
Telligen



EDUCATION

Ruffalo Noel Levitz
ACT, Inc.
Pearson



MANUFACTURING

Collins Aerospace
Wells Enterprises
Pella Corporation



TRANSPORTATION

Ruan Transportation
TMC Transportation
Don Hummer Trucking



TELECOMMUNICATION

U.S. Cellular
Mediacom
AT&T



STARTUPS

LenderClose
Chatterkick
Rantizo, Inc.

Tech Jobs Across Iowa



Laura

WEB DEVELOPER

ANNUAL SALARY: \$67,000*

Laura is a web developer at Far Reach Technologies in Cedar Falls, Iowa. She builds websites which includes the site's layout and user experience, applications, and other digital content for Far Reach clients. Laura uses HTML, CSS, and JavaScript to write and program sites on a daily basis. A project that motivates Laura is creating and managing the website of a local animal shelter. Laura went above and beyond to help and customized an application that allows the shelter to easily receive online donations. She has an associates degree from an Iowa community college and is currently in her fifth year at Far Reach. A position similar to Laura's earns approximately \$67,000 annually.



Mason

SOFTWARE DEVELOPER

ANNUAL SALARY: \$70,000*

Mason is a software developer at John Deere in Waterloo, Iowa. He designs software utilized in Deere's vehicles that provides their customers precision machine control and industry leading user experience. Mason works on an Agile team, using C++ and Model Based Software Development operating systems to write and test the software. He is proud that his work helps customers limit chemical use on crops, which helps keep the local waterways clean and safe to enjoy. Mason earned a software engineering degree from Iowa State University and is currently in his second year at John Deere. A position similar to Mason's earns approximately \$70,000 annually.

*Actual companies and job descriptions are realistic, however the people and identifying details in this section are fictional for the purpose of this brochure. Any resemblance to an actual person's life or position is coincidental.



Louis

COMPUTER SYSTEMS ANALYST

ANNUAL SALARY: \$67,000*

Louis is a computer systems analyst at Pella Corporation in Pella, Iowa. He collaborates with IT leaders and other business executives to ensure the organization's computer systems are operating effectively and efficiently. Louis spends time analysing the current computer and information systems, looking for opportunities to improve functionality and efficiencies and designs systems by configuring hardware and software components. He loves the flexibility of his role, as he spends many days working remotely in Des Moines. Louis has a bachelor's degree from the University of Northern Iowa and has been with Pella for three years. A position similar to Louis's earns approximately \$67,000 annually.



Marie

DATA CENTER OPERATIONS ENGINEER

ANNUAL SALARY: \$90,000*

Marie is a data center operations engineer for Google in Council Bluffs, Iowa. She is the first point of contact for technical issues that arise at the site, working to diagnose and resolve issues as they arise, often partnering with remote engineering teams. Much of Marie's work involves debugging hardware and Linux OS related issues, as well as assisting with various projects, including planning for new capacity as well as retrofits to the current system. She appreciates the ability to work for a global tech company while staying close to family and friends in her hometown of Council Bluffs. Marie has been with Google for five years and earned her bachelor's degree in engineering from Creighton University. A position similar to Marie's earns approximately \$90,000.

Tech Jobs Across Iowa



Lee

INFORMATION SECURITY ANALYST

ANNUAL SALARY: \$74,000*

Lee is an information security analyst at Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Des Moines, Iowa. She is responsible for ensuring that the organization's digital assets are protected from unauthorized access, including securing both online and on-premise infrastructures. Working closely with the security teams, Lee tests for vulnerabilities and monitors for breaches, utilizing software tools to mitigate risks where issues are found and prevent future incidents. Lee's job keeps her on her toes, and never gets dull as she is constantly trying to stay ahead of the next threat. She also founded a non-profit that offers IT and cybersecurity training to adults looking to start a technology career. With three years of experience, a position similar to Lee's earns approximately \$74,000 annually.



Mohamed

STARTUP FOUNDER

Mohamed insuretech startup founder. He founded the company while studying at Drake University two years ago. His app helps individual agents process and monitor applications in real-time across a variety of carriers. This allows them to spend less time following up and more time interacting with their clients. Mohamed is currently seeking seed funding to hire at team to help with business development. He spends many days working alongside other entrepreneurs from Gravitare, a coworking space in downtown Des Moines. He even connected with a mentor while working from Gravitare, who has been helping him identify business goals. Though he initially considered moving to the west coast after graduation, Mohamed cannot imagine getting his company off the ground anywhere else given the support, access, and growth opportunities that he has found in Des Moines.

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Evan

NETWORK ARCHITECT

ANNUAL SALARY: \$91,000*

Evan is a network architect for UnityPoint Health in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Evan works on the communication networks that the organization relies on to share data between offices and their many health care facilities. Evan spends time researching new technologies as he plans for the future network needs and develops plans for its expansion, including determining what hardware and software are the best fit for their network demands. He enjoys the challenges of his job and that his work helps make it easier for doctors and other healthcare professionals to do their job more efficiently, allowing them to focus more time with their patients. Evan earned a bachelor's degree in information systems from The Ohio State University, and has been with UnityPoint Health for seven years. A position similar to Evan's earns approximately \$91,000 annually.



Michelle

CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

ANNUAL SALARY: \$178,000*

Michelle is the chief information officer for a major insurance provider in Johnston, Iowa. Michelle oversees the use of IT throughout the organization and ensures that all systems necessary to support its operations and objectives are in place. Working with other members of the executive team to determine organizational needs and goals, Marie develops and leads the technology team's strategy to accomplish those goals, including customizing technical platforms, implementing new systems, and establishing partnerships with third party IT providers. She takes pride in using the skills that she has built over her 15-year career in technology to help devise the organization's overall strategy and goals. However, perhaps her favorite part of her role is in working with her technology team to design and work through their own developmental goals. In addition to a leadership certificate from the University of Iowa, Michelle has a bachelor's degree in computer science from Iowa State University. A position similar to Marie's earns approximately \$178,000 annually.

Do More in Iowa

More affordable space and less traffic means you have more time and resources to solve the world's big problems right here in Iowa. According to the Iowa Economic Development Authority, the state shines above the east and west coasts with lower monthly rental and mortgage costs, less travel time to work, and increased competitiveness powered by global brands and companies.

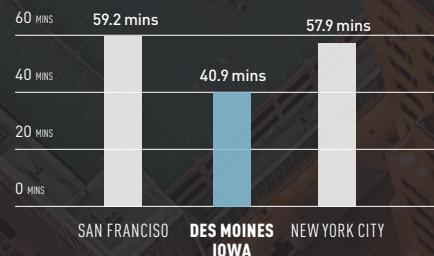


IOWA IS THE #1 STATE TO FIND A JOB

—U.S. News & World Report

COMMUTE TIME TO WORK

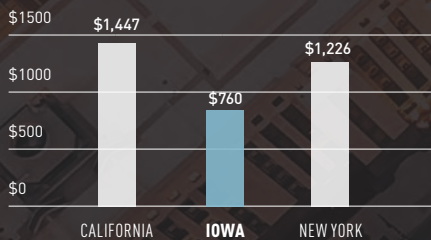
Average round-trip commute time (minutes)



Source: Robert Half survey, 2017

AVERAGE MONTHLY RENTAL PAYMENT

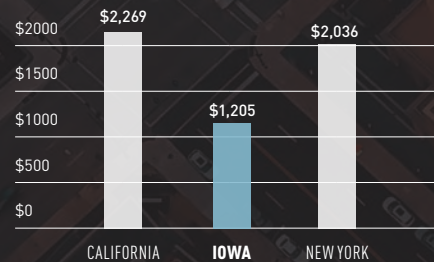
Median monthly rental payment (U.S. average - \$1,012)*



Source: Iowa Economic Development Authority

AVERAGE MONTHLY MORTGAGE PAYMENT

Median monthly mortgage payment (U.S. average - \$1,513)*



Source: Iowa Economic Development Authority

- **#1 state to find a job in 2018** — U.S. News & World Report
- **#7 Best Place for Business and Careers** — Forbes 2018
- **#5 Best Place to Live** — U.S. News & World Report 2019
- **DSM Fastest-Growing Major Metro in the Midwest** — U.S. Census Bureau 2018
- **#2 Most Educated State** — Top 10 Most Educated States in the US by College Candy 2019

Build it in Iowa

Iowa offers favorable conditions for starting and growing a business. Small businesses benefit from the support of assistance programs and tax credit opportunities offered exclusively and regularly to Iowa-based businesses created in Iowa.

COST OF DOING BUSINESS (1 = LOWEST COST)



STATE COMPETITIVENESS RATING

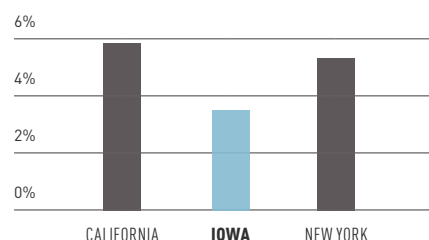


INVESTMENT TAX CREDITS

CALIFORNIA	No
NEW YORK	Yes; 2% of qualified investments up to 10 years. Job requirements vary by industry
IOWA	Yes; 10% rate: qualifying property includes manufacturing equipment, pollution control, buildings & fixtures and improvements to land

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Unemployment rate for states (seasonally adjusted) - 2017



Source: Iowa Economic Development Authority



Ability To Work Remotely

Working in Iowa does not necessarily mean in an office or in the field. Completing projects and tasks from your preferred location, a coffee shop, your home, or even a co-working space, is becoming a part of workforce culture in Iowa. The emphasis being creativity and efficiency are enhanced with flexibility of location.



Highest Graduation Rate in the Nation

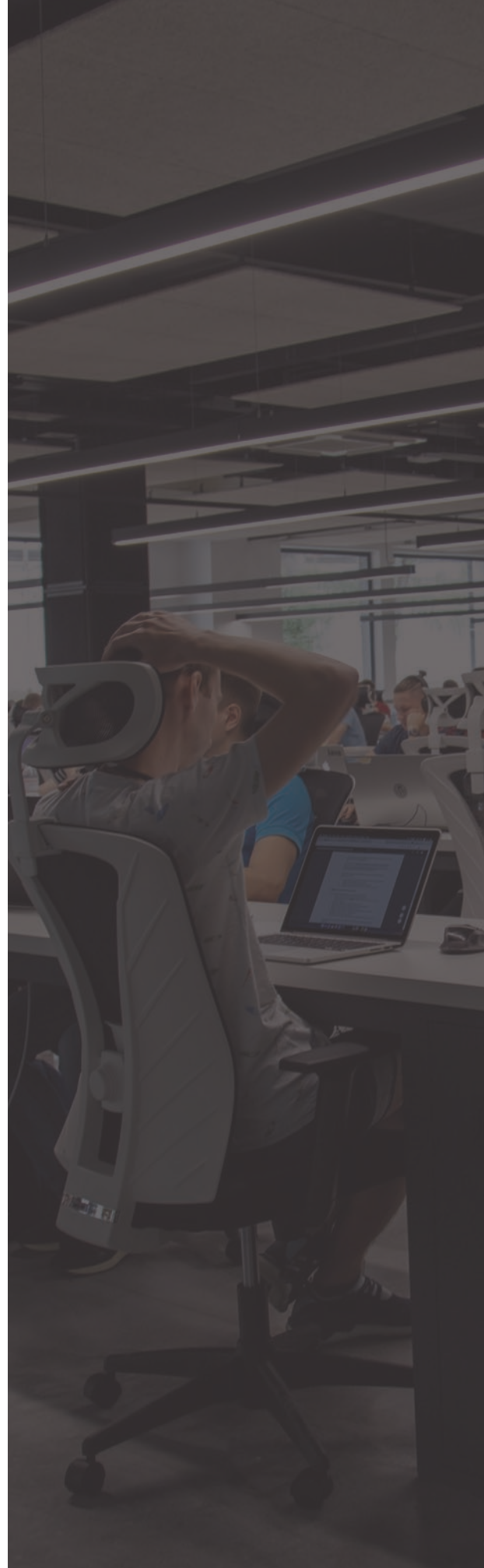
With a 91% graduation rate, Iowa holds the highest graduation rate in the nation, exemplifying its dedication to preparing students for higher education or workforce advancement.

In Iowa, you have the ability to make a big impact. There's a strong, supportive community with direct access to mentorship programs. Life in Iowa tech is not spent in a cubicle. Many companies offer the chance to work at home and some even have second or satellite locations to meet their workforce where they live. There are flexible and adaptive workplaces that feel less like an office and more like a coffee shop.

Future of Tech in Iowa

The future of Iowa's job growth is only expected to expand, providing recent graduates a plethora of opportunities in the technology industry. Iowa Workforce Development surveyed students from almost half of all colleges and universities in the state of Iowa and concluded that **46 percent are likely to stay in Iowa after graduation or program completion.** Students understand the lower cost of living coupled with countless recreational opportunities equate to Iowa being a fantastic place to live and work.

According to the 2018 Iowa Workforce & The Economy Report, **"Over the next ten years (2016–26), Iowa is projected to add 154,725 jobs, a gain of 8.5 percent."** Iowa is only going to continue its voyage of growth and development. World-changing technology is being created right now in the state from health-tech advancements at the University of Iowa hospitals, to technology that is changing farming practices at Sukup Manufacturing Co. You will have the opportunity to create and work on projects that have an impact.





“The future of Iowa is right here. We have the most dedicated and talented students and workforce in the nation. Supporting them and their needs is a top priority and we want to provide them the tools to succeed.”

— Brian Waller, President, Technology Association of Iowa



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