



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Technology Association of Iowa Announces 2025 Iowa Tech Connect Cohort

DES MOINES, Iowa (June 23, 2025) – The Technology Association of Iowa (TAI) is proud to announce the 2025 cohort of Iowa Tech Connect, a statewide initiative designed to accelerate the growth and development of early-career technology professionals.

This six-month program builds leadership capacity and strengthens Iowa's tech workforce by combining expert-led sessions, immersive learning experiences, and meaningful peer connections. The 2025 cohort brings together 26 professionals from 26 organizations, representing a diverse cross-section of industries and communities across the state.

"Iowa Tech Connect reflects our belief that technology leadership starts with people. This cohort represents the future of Iowa's innovation economy—driven, curious, and committed to growth, said Brian Waller, President at TAI. "By investing in early-career professionals, we're not only supporting individual development, we're strengthening the entire tech ecosystem across our state."

The program is made possible through the generous support of lead sponsors [EMC Insurance Companies](#) and the [Ivy College of Business at Iowa State University](#). Their investment underscores the importance of growing and retaining tech talent in Iowa—and building a statewide workforce ready to lead.

Joe Riesberg, Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer at EMC Insurance Companies, emphasized the broader impact. "Iowa Tech Connect continues to be a powerful catalyst for young professionals across Iowa's tech community. EMC is honored to support a program that helps emerging talent build connections, develop leadership skills, and drive innovation statewide."

Iowa Tech Connect reflects TAI's broader mission: to unite technology professionals and leaders, strengthen Iowa's innovation ecosystem, and drive economic growth across every industry.

Iowa Tech Connect 2025 cohort:

Jack Angell

Financial Systems Analyst III, Athene

Kylee Blad

Machine Data Lead, John Deere

Natalie Davis

Senior Project Manager, We Write Code

Alexis Diediker

Offensive Cyber Operations Consultant, ProCircular

Chase Eiklenborg

Data Analyst II, ICS (Holmes Murphy)

Paxton Fife

Information Technology Support Team Lead, VGM Group, Inc.

Abhishek Gaur

Data Analyst, Grinnell College, ITS

Rylie Graham

Infrastructure Engineer, Altorfer CAT

Grayson Hardin

Software Engineer II, Lean TECHniques Inc.

Ryan Herren

Software Engineer, Hy-Vee, Inc.

Courtney Hessel

Product Owner - Data & Analytics, Casey's

Nile Jacobus

Systems Administrator, The Weitz Company

Edina Kremic

IT System Analyst, American Equity Life Insurance Company

Alexa Lohrengel

Information Security Analyst II, Principal Financial Group

Jentry Miller

Application Analyst IV, TruStage

Haider Raza

Senior Cybersecurity GRC Analyst, Kingland

Dan Roemerman

Associate Business Analyst, Revology

Alex Romig

Technology Security Risk Analyst, EMC Insurance Companies

Jacob Roush

Software Engineering Team Lead, Pella Corporation

Will Schany

Scrum Master/IT Business Analyst, RUAN Transportation Management Systems

Ajla Selimovic

Cybersecurity Engineer, Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield

Nathan Sepich

AI Solutions Engineering Lead, Collins Aerospace

Jadon Taylor

Tech Ops Analyst, UnityPoint Health

Bryce Teff

Network Admin, Fareway Stores, Inc.

Madison Wauters

Business Systems Analyst, F&G Annuity and Life

Nicole Williams

Product Manager, ITA Group

About the Technology Association of Iowa (TAI)

The Technology Association of Iowa guides public policy, develops talent, and invests in our state's innovation ecosystem. Since 1997, we've united technology professionals and leaders to bolster economic prosperity across industries. Our members champion a clear truth: Technology is the cornerstone of Iowa's growth – and innovation is every Iowan's business.

Get involved at technologyiowa.org and follow us on [LinkedIn](#).

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