

Frequently Asked Questions

Is my business eligible to receive a grant?

Eligible applicants are businesses with physical operations facilities in Nebraska, including for-profit businesses and nonprofit organizations. State and federal entities, governmental subdivisions and public and private colleges and universities are not eligible.

How much money can my business receive?

Businesses may request up to 25 interns and up to \$7,500/intern.

Is the student required to be a fulltime student at the university or college they attend to be eligible?

No. A student is eligible as long as they are enrolled in a college or university, or other institution of higher education.

Are code schools considered an eligible institution of higher education?

Yes. Code Schools licensed by the Department of Education are certified training institutions.

My business has more than one hundred fifty fulltime equivalent employees (FTE). Are we eligible for wage reimbursement?

No. Effective July 1, 2024, businesses with 150 or more fulltime equivalent employees are not eligible for wage reimbursement for students. A business with 150 or more FTE are eligible to receive reimbursement for tuition costs for postsecondary courses, transportation expenses relating to the internship, internship housing, or internship administrative or recruitment costs.

Must the internship be a paid internship?

Yes. All businesses must pay the student at least the state minimum wage hourly wage for the internship. The business is required to submit the wage for each job position at the time of application. Stipends are not allowed, the student must be paid an hourly wage.

Are stipends eligible for reimbursement?

No. Stipends for wages, housing, tuition, transportation, living, etc. will not be reimbursed.

Are we able to hire the student as an independent contractor?

No.

Do I have to use www.InternNE.com to hire my intern?

No. The business is not required to hire the intern using www.InternNE.com. We encourage employers to use all platforms at their disposal to recruit the right candidate. However, a job posting is required to be submitted for each internship position submitted in the application.

Do we receive the funds awarded upfront?

No. The award is a 50% reimbursement of costs incurred, up to the amount awarded.

How often can we request reimbursement?

Reimbursement requests may be made once for each internship awarded. Reimbursements are upon completion of the internship by the intern or within 30 days of the completion of the internship, or within 30 days of the contract end date.

Are internal events eligible for reimbursement?

No. Only external events such as conferences, chamber events, or young professional events may be an eligible cost for reimbursement.

What type of documentation must I submit for reimbursement?

To receive reimbursement for an eligible cost, the business must submit source documents and proof of payment. Source documents are itemized receipts and/or invoices. Proof of payment documents are cleared/cancelled checks, financial system statements, credit card statements showing purchase as well as proof that the business paid the expense against the credit card. If eligible for wage reimbursement, the business must submit paystubs for each pay period with the student's name, total hours worked for the pay period, hourly wage, and gross wages paid.

May the student telecommute for their internship?

An intern may be allowed to telecommute if the business is located in Nebraska and the college or university in which the student is enrolled is in Nebraska. The internship must be completed in Nebraska, and the student/intern must reside in Nebraska during the internship. The business must receive written preapproval from the Department. The business can submit the request to the Department via email at ded.internne@nebraska.gov.

May the student telecommute/remote work in another state, not Nebraska?

No. The internship must take place in Nebraska and the student must reside in Nebraska during the internship.

Will our business be awarded funds on a rolling basis once awarded?

No. To be considered for a new award, the business must submit a new application.