



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Iowa High School Students Invited to Week of Innovation July 14-18**

Registration is now open for Business Horizons 2024, a five-day innovation program for Iowa high school students currently in grades 9-12. Business Horizons will take place July 14-18 on the campus of Drake University in Des Moines. This is the 41<sup>st</sup> year of the program provided by the Iowa Association of Business and Industry (ABI) Foundation.

In this action-packed week, participants work in teams with business advisors to identify real-world problems impacting students and business solutions. At the end of the week, teams will participate in competitions including investor pitches, infomercial screenings, and a trade show in front of live judging panels. The week also includes workshops and keynotes from Iowa industry professionals, team-building activities, local business tours, fun after-hours events and more.

"Business Horizons gave me a glimpse into what college life could look like and the opportunity to meet new friends and professionals from a plethora of industries," said Isaac Brinker, 2023 participant and student at Marquette Catholic High School in Bellevue, Iowa. "As the week progressed, my view on a future in Iowa became clearer. Seeing so many volunteers and companies invest their time and resources in this program showed me that they truly believe in cultivating a future of bright minds."

Business Horizons allows participants the opportunity to develop essential future-ready and leadership skills, gain insight into potential careers, meet business mentors, and leave with a renewed sense of motivation and confidence in their next steps. Students can also receive transferrable college credit for their participation.

"Business Horizons offers a unique opportunity for students from across Iowa to come together in a spirit of collaboration and apply the knowledge and skills they possess to a project they care about," said program director Jessi McQuerrey. "Every student, regardless of career interest, can benefit from this experience."

The program cost is \$400, which covers all meals, lodging, activities, and materials during the five days. Students who register on/by May 27 will receive a \$50 discount. Need-based financial assistance is available and may be requested through the online registration form. Registrations will be accepted through July 5 or until the program is filled.

Learn more, nominate students to attend, or register students online at [www.BusinessHorizonsIowa.com](http://www.BusinessHorizonsIowa.com).

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Business Horizons is a program of the Iowa Association of Business and Industry (ABI) Foundation. The ABI Foundation is a statewide non-profit organization with a mission of building partnerships between business, education, and communities. The organization also provides resources and forums that develop professional and personal responsibility and leadership for our communities and our state.

