WHAT IS IOWA BIG?
Iowa BIG is a high school program designed to help you lead your own learning journey and discover your gifts, talents, and interests. BIG is a place where you get to learn through working on authentic projects in our community with community leaders. At BIG, you learn not only the content and standards in courses, but how to get along in the world and build the skills to make you “present-and-future-ready.”

HOW DOES GRADEX WORK?
You receive grades just like you would at your high school. You are graded on your ability to demonstrate each of the essential standards of a course. The courses and grades appear on your transcript just like any other course at your high school.

WHAT DO I NEED TO BE IN BIG?
• A drive to take initiative, explore your passions, and learn.
• A junior or senior.
• A minimum of 3 consecutive, open class periods.
• Parent/Guardian(s) agreement.

WHAT DO I GET OUT OF BIG?
BIG is about real-world application. You get to see and experience your classroom learning as it lives in actual practice through real business and community projects. BIG teaches the course standards as well as essential 21st century skills. Learners drive the learning and are not limited by the curriculum. You own and control your learning.

CAN I STILL TAKE COURSES AND PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES AT MY CURRENT HIGH SCHOOL?
Absolutely! We want you to experience all the great courses, traditions and activities happening at your high school. BIG is a program of each high school involved so you remain a full member of your home school, often referred to as the “mothership” by BIG students.

IS BIG RIGHT FOR ME?
BIG is a program open to all students. Do you enjoy hands-on learning? Are you hoping to earn a scholarship for college? Are you bored or unsure of what to do after high school? If you answered yes to any of those questions, BIG is the right fit for you!
COURSES OFFERED

BUSINESS COURSES
• Personal Finance
• Entrepreneurship
• Sales + Marketing

ENGLISH COURSES
• English III
• Communications
• Creative Writing
• Contemporary Literature
• Perspectives in Lit + Comp

GENERAL ELECTIVE COURSES
• Computer Science
• Introduction to the Agile Mindset
• Advanced Agile Mindset (Intro to Agile is a prerequisite)

MATHEMATICS COURSES
• Statistics
• Financial Math
• Consumer Math

SCIENCE COURSES
• Environmental + Ecological Problems

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES
• Economics
• American Government
• Psychology
• Sociology
• US History

OKAY. HOW DO I SIGN UP?

Please meet with your counselor to get signed up for Iowa BIG. Students returning to Iowa BIG for a second or third year are granted a spot and should also let their counselors know they will be participating in Iowa BIG again. For questions, please reach out to Laura Seyfer at LSeyfer@iowabig.org.