



Enrolling in Iowa BIG



- 1. Are you a student enrolled at one of the following:**
 1. A Cedar Rapids Community School District high school?
 2. Prairie High School (Cedar Rapids)?
 3. Mount Vernon (IA) High School?
 4. Linn-Mar High School?

- 2. Are you interested in earning core academic credit by working with community partners on super creative projects?**

(for example: building a robotic kayak with the DNR, or planning a Shark Tank-like event for 7th grade girls with Girls Scouts of America)

If you answered "Yes!" to both of those questions, please email our intrepid social studies instructor, Dennis Becker:

dbecker@iowabig.org

Dennis will help you build a class schedule and deliver it to your counselor.

Here are a few questions that we get asked quite a bit:

What GPA do I need to get into Iowa BIG?

We do not filter applicants by GPA. Our current enrollment has a GPA range of 1.5 to 4.3.

What is the time requirement?

Most student enroll at least two *consecutive* periods of their day, although some students attend their entire day at Iowa BIG. Project requirements are not balanced day-to-day, which helps students practice time management skills.

Where are you located?

Our main campus is at Vault Coworking in the NewBo neighborhood of Cedar Rapids; however, students spend large amounts of time embedded with their projects' partners, which may be somewhere else in the city.

I don't have a car, how can I get to meetings all over the city?

We have grants that pay for taxis and buses.

Do I need to have a project/initiative in mind before I enroll?

Nope. We employ amazing personnel who harvest projects year-round from businesses, non-profits, and government agencies; although we'd love to hear your idea!

What will my transcript look like?

Just like a student's who attended 100% of their time at one of the high schools. Our credits are conferred by the student's parent high school.

What's the student body like?

In 2016-2017, Iowa BIG's student body of ~140 students will be: 44% CRCSD, 44% CCSD, 10% Linn-Mar, and 4% Mount Vernon students.

What courses do you offer?

• 11th and 12th grade English	• Psych/Sociology
• Statistics	• Digital Art
• Physics	• Environmental Science
• Economics	• American Government
• Electives can be found at http://www.iowabig.org/BIG_WP/?page_id=267	• Accommodations are made for other course credits depending on the student's chosen project load.

How do colleges view participation in Iowa BIG?

They love it! Iowa BIG has explicit approval from admissions directors at all of Iowa's Regents Universities. These directors lauded the ability of BIG's students to speak to their unique project resumes. We have graduates at: The University of Iowa, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Gonzaga, University of Northern Iowa, Iowa State University, and many more!

Who runs Iowa BIG?

Iowa BIG is a partnership of the entire Cedar Rapids Metro area! Two of our teachers are on the CRCSD payroll, two are on the College Community payroll, our administrator of record is the Associate Superintendent of the CRCSD, and our Partner Development Director is employed by the Metro Economic Alliance. We are also funded by donations from The Gazette Companies, Van Meter Inc, grants from the Governor's STEM Council, and many more!