

IOWA INSTITUTE FOR COOPERATIVES

2515 University Blvd., Suite #104 • Ames, IA 50010 • (515) 292-2667 • info@iowainstitute.coop

To: Iowa Institute for Cooperative Members
RE: 2026 Co-op Intern Day
Tuesday, June 2, 2026
Fareway Conference Center at the Cobblestone Inn & Suites
1900 Lakewood Drive, Boone, IA

We will be hosting our Summer Cooperative Intern Day on Tuesday, June 2, 2026 at the Fareway Conference Center in Boone. This one-day program is designed to help your interns better understand the cooperative business model and gain other insights and skills needed as they begin their careers.

At the conclusion of the event, we will strongly encourage the attendees to **apply for the IIC scholarship this summer**. Last year our Board awarded 10 \$2,500 scholarships to individuals who spent their summer interning at a cooperative who is a member of IIC.

Please share this letter and agenda with your interns when they arrive this summer. The agenda can also be found on our website. Encourage them to take a day and learn more about cooperatives as they spend their summer with you. The registration for the program is \$175 per attendee and if you register 5 or more the cost is \$150 per attendee. Please complete the registration form and return it to us by Friday, May 22nd.

Your cooperative staff are welcome to join us for the day. There is no registration charge for your staff, but they will need to be included on your registration form so that we have an accurate count for meals and seating.

If you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to email us at info@iowainstitute.coop

As always, thank you for your support and membership.

Agenda

2026 Co-op Intern Day

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Fareway Conference Center at the Cobblestone Inn & Suites

1900 Lakewood Drive, Boone, IA

8:45 - 9:15 **Registration**

9:15 - 9:30 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Bobby Martens, Executive Director, Iowa Institute for Cooperatives

9:30 - 10:30 **Cooperatives 101 w/ Donuts, Coffee and Juice**

Matt Eddy, Director of Cooperative Education, Iowa Institute for Cooperatives

10:30 - 10:45 **Break**

10:45 - 11:45 **Technology Innovation**

Ryan Kirk, Data Innovator

Ryan specializes in building and scaling enterprise AI, machine learning, and data capabilities that drive measurable business results. Blending deep technical expertise with operational leadership, they focus on turning complex data into production systems that enhance revenue, efficiency, and customer experience while enabling organizations to fully leverage AI as a strategic advantage.

11:45 - 12:15 **Networking Event**

12:15 - 1:00 **Lunch**

1:00 - 2:00 **Cooperatives in Action**

Bobby Martens, Executive Director, Iowa Institute for Cooperatives

Matt Eddy, Director of Cooperative Education, Iowa Institute for Cooperatives

2:00 - 2:15 **Break**

2:15 - 3:15 **Why Cooperatives? Career Pathway Panel Discussion**

Hear from expert panelists who have leadership experience in the cooperative system

3:15 - 3:30 **Wrap up and Closing Comments**

Registration Form

You may submit your registration online through our website under our Events tab or complete the form below.

2026 Co-op Intern Day

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Fareway Conference Center at the Cobblestone Inn & Suites

1900 Lakewood Drive, Boone, IA

Cooperative Name: _____

Cooperative Town: _____

Please list the names of each person who will be attending.

If you or any of your staff would like to join us for the day or simply for the networking and lunch, there is no charge for you to attend. We would ask that you let us know how many of your staff will be attending so we have an accurate count for lunch.

Name	Intern or Staff Title
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Registration fee is \$175.00 per intern for 1-4 persons from the same association.

Registration fee is \$150.00 per intern if sending 5 or more from the same association.

Please register by Friday, May 22. Email the completed form to info@iowainstitute.coop

Please mail a copy of the form with your check to:

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