





TECH HOTSPOT

Livability, 2018





DSM ACCELERATORS



The Global Insurance **Accelerator** is a mentor-driven accelerator designed to foster innovation in the insurance industry by supporting startups that target the global insurance sector through technological innovations.



Backed by nine super-regional, privately held brokerage firms, the **BrokerTech Ventures** Accelerator is an innovation hub for startups to test broker-centric ideas and products, while bringing new and innovative ideas and solutions to the industry.



TechStars is a nationally renowned venture capital firm and network of accelerators that has partnered with Grinnell College to form one of lowa's most competitive incubators.



Major fiber backbone and long-haul data access.



Refundable research and development tax credit of 6.5% for qualifying research expenditures in lowa.



The cost of doing business is 13% lower than the national average.

— Moody's Analytics

KEY TECHNOLOGY CLUSTERS

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Animal and Plant Genetics
- Data Centers
- Digital Media and Marketing
- FinTech
- InsurTech
- Precision Farming
- Process Control Systems



QUALIFIED WORKFORCE

Job training program reimburses up to

\$7,000

per new insurance industry job based on increased payroll.



3.2% average annual growth in high-tech industries over the past 10 years.

— JobsEQ

34,165workers in high-tech industries
— JobsEQ



38% of the population age 25 – 64 hold a bachelor's degree or higher.

— JobsEQ



80,000 Students in Central lowa higher education

— Iowa Department of Education

IDEAL LIVING ENVIRONMENT



A 20-minute average commute.

— U.S. Census Bureau



The cost of living is typically 10% below the national average.

— The Council for Community and Economic Research

MAJOR DSM DATA CENTERS

Facebook:

\$3 BILLION

Microsoft:

\$2 BILLION

Apple:

\$1.4 BILLION

Computer Network Architects: \$108,500

Operations Research Analysts: \$84,900

Actuaries: \$110,800

Statisticians: \$72,200

Electrical Engineers: \$82,400

Computer User Support Specialists: \$53,500

Computer Network Support Specialistsa: \$60,200

RECENT EXPANSIONS

ESO

ESO is a rapidly growing technology company providing software applications, interoperability and data management solutions to emergency medical services, fire departments and hospitals. This Austin-based company recently moved to Downtown DSM and occupies 13,000 sq. ft. in the former *Des Moines Register* printing floor.

GRANULAR

Granular develops solutions using software and analytics to make precision farming more profitable and efficient. This San Francisco-based firm opened a 30,000 sq. ft. office in Johnston.

DWOLLA

Dwolla, founded in DSM, facilitates the movement of millions of dollars every day with low transaction costs, easy automation and near-perfect reliability. To accommodate its expanding workforce, Dwolla now occupies 23,000 sq. ft. in Downtown DSM.

JOHN DEERE: INTELLIGENT SOLUTIONS GROUP

Intelligent Solutions Group (ISG), the company's premier IT development department, creates software for precision agriculture and recently invested \$32.6 million in a new office building to house 700 employees in Urbandale.

— JobsEQ

SELECTED IT OCCUPATIONS

Average Annual Wages by Job Title

Computer and Information Systems Managers: \$135,300

Computer Systems Analysts: \$85,800 Information Security Analysts: \$92,600 Computer Programmers: \$80,800

Web Developers and Digital Interface Designers: \$71,800
Database Administrators and Architects: \$101,300

Network and Computer Systems Administrators: \$82,400
Software Developers and Software Quality Assurance

Analysts and Testers: \$95,700

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