2026 AIST Leadership Conference

Progress Update
Steel to Students: Trade School Outreach

Danielle Schleiden-Remley
Manager — Membership
AIST

Premier Sponsor

Event Sponsors

Steel to Students: Trade School Outreach

AIST was awarded **US$607,518** through the U.S. Department of Energy to expand skilled trades career opportunities in the steel industry.



I. INSPIRE

Introduce young students to manufacturing through hands-on experiences.



II. DEVELOP

Connect technical education with paid, real-world work experience.



III. RECRUIT

Expand steel awareness and support students entering the industry.

Project period: September 2025–September 2027

The Industrial Systems Energy Efficiency Development (ISEED) Collaborative

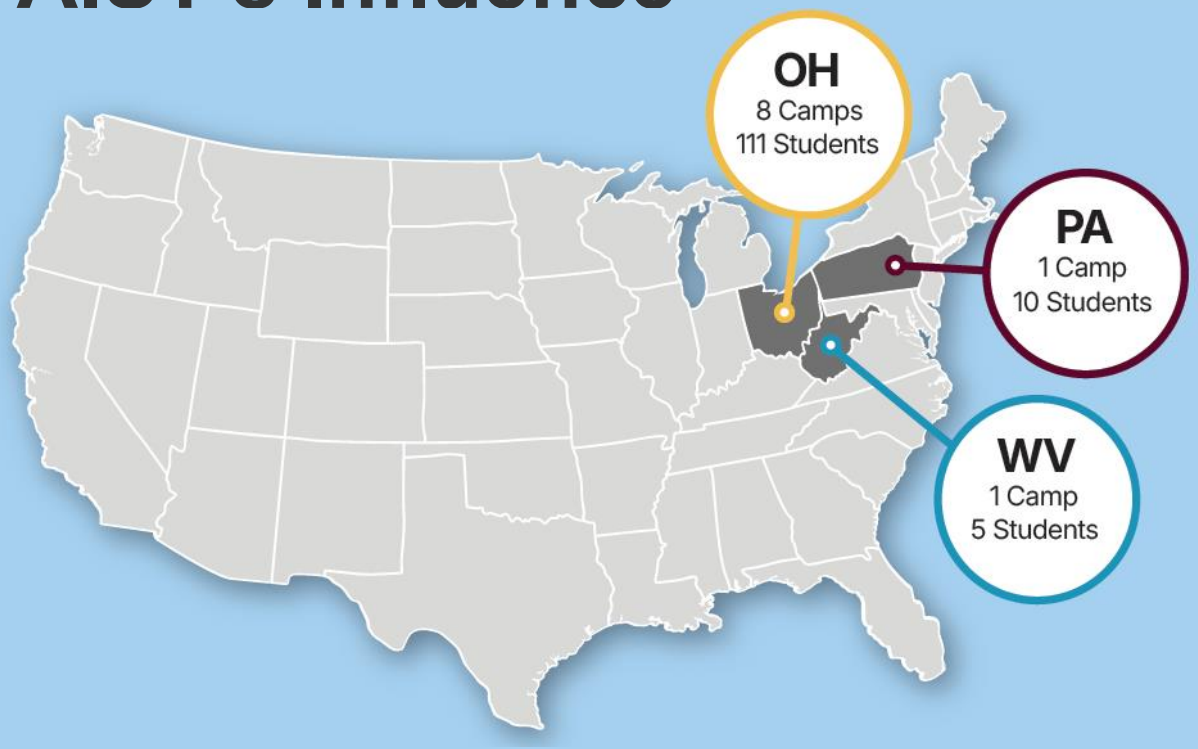
U.S. DEPARTMENT of ENERGY
Office of Critical Minerals and Energy Innovation

I. INSPIRE: Summer Manufacturing Camps



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AIST's Influence



SPARK FORCE™
THE FMA FOUNDATION

2026 IMPACT

10 | **Camps Co-Sponsored**

126 Students Reached

2027 GOAL

20 | **Camps to Co-Sponsor**

2x Our 2026 Support

Greater Impact in 2027

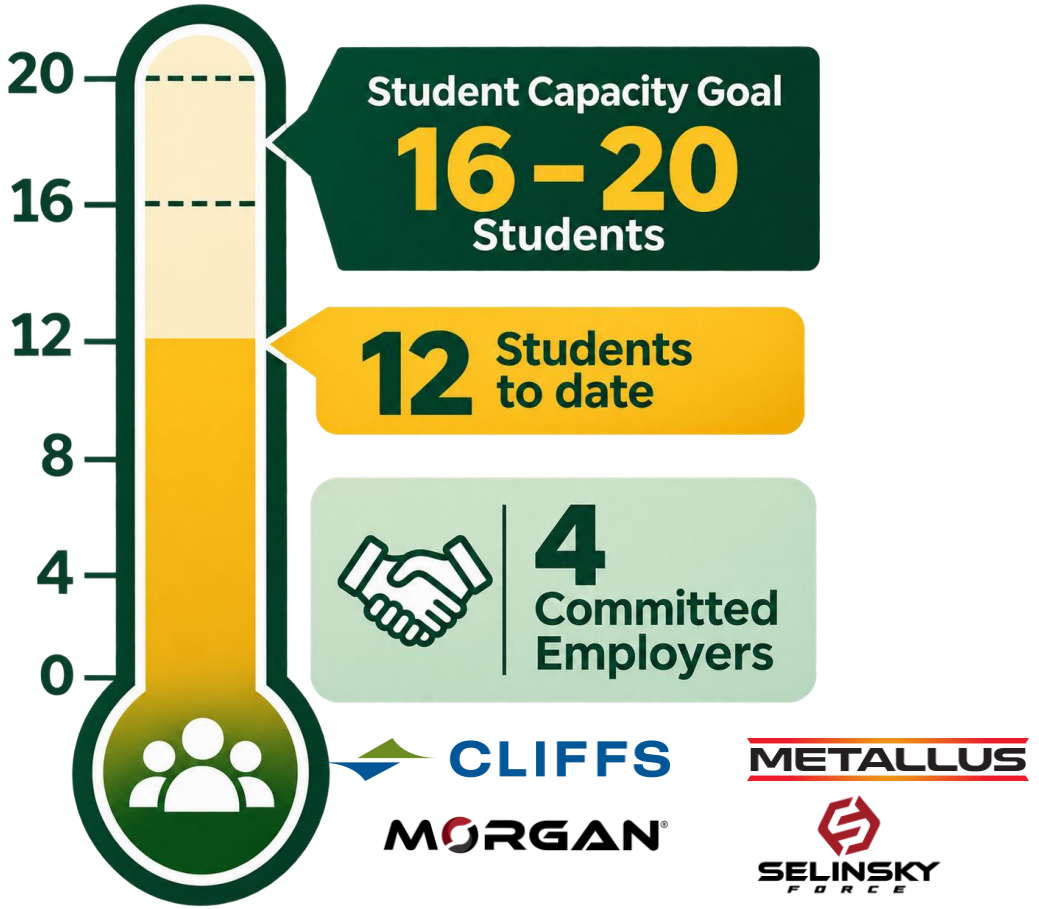
Doubling our support to reach more students and communities.

II. DEVELOP: FAME USA

The FAME Model

- Two-year Advanced Manufacturing Technician (AMT) program.
- Three days of paid work and two days of classroom instruction each week.
- Students earn an associate degree while gaining valuable industry experience.

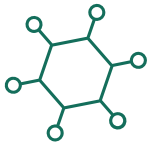
Progress to Date



III. RECRUIT: Educational Toolkits

What's Inside?


Steelmaking and casting materials


Metal samples and microstructures


Interactive demonstrations


Educational posters and explanation cards


Portable storage box for easy transport

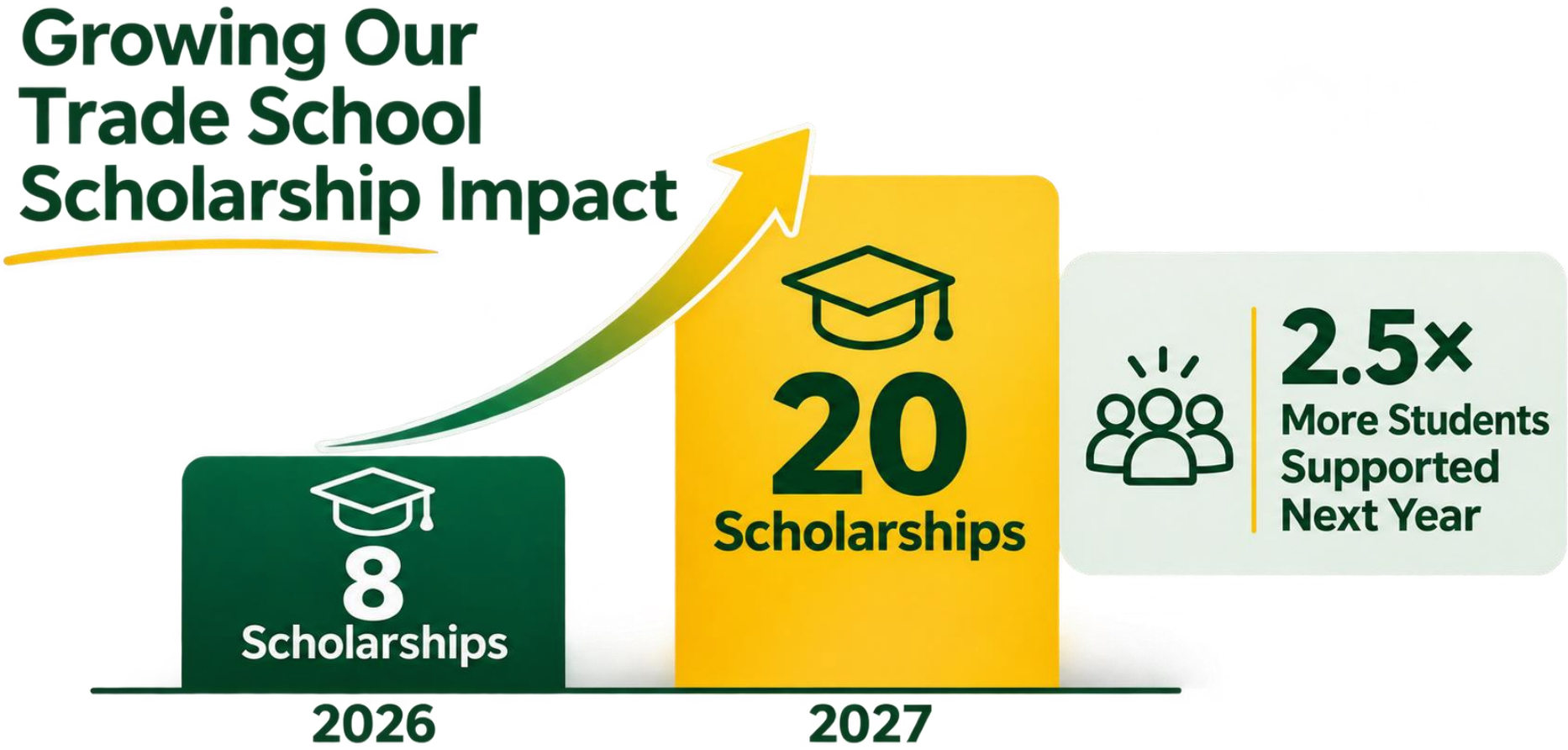
20 Proposed Toolkits

$540 Per toolkit + delivery

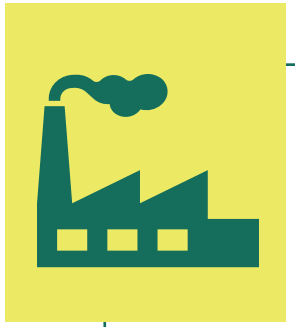
$10,800 Total proposed investment

Next Step Finalize toolkit design and prep for production and distribution.

III. RECRUIT: Investing in Future Trades Professionals



Expanding Our Reach



Industry Exposure

Plant tours and opportunities to see steel manufacturing firsthand.



Technical Education

Registration and travel support to AIST Technology Training Conferences.



Classroom Connections

Virtual introductory sessions featuring AIST representatives and Young Profs.



Industry Networking

Opportunities to connect with steel professionals through AIST events and Member Chapters.

Looking Ahead: 2027 Priorities



I. INSPIRE | SparkForce Summer Manufacturing Camps

Double our involvement to 20 manufacturing camps, reaching approximately 300 kids ages 12 to 16.



II. DEVELOP | FAME USA

Launch the first Northeast Ohio cohort of 16–20 students, securing 2 to 3 more company partners.



III. RECRUIT | Student Outreach

Finalize and distribute 20 recruitment outreach toolkits, award 20 trade school scholarships, and expand engagement with technical schools.



How You Can Help

Connect AIST with manufacturing employers, local schools and organizations interested in student outreach opportunities.

Thank you!

Danielle Schleiden-Remley

Manager — Membership

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