Company Description:
NutraMaize is on a mission to transform the United States' largest staple crop – corn – into a platform for delivering better nutrition on a population-wide scale. NutraMaize’s innovation is a set of unique varieties of non-GMO Orange Corn. The vibrant orange color comes from significantly higher levels of carotenoids (2-4x more than yellow corn), the same natural antioxidant pigments that give carrots their color and health-benefiting reputation. NutraMaize’s Co-Founder Dr. Torbert Rocheford of Purdue University originally participated in the development of Orange Corn as part of the humanitarian effort called HarvestPlus to help address malnutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa, where it is currently grown in more than 10 countries. Now, NutraMaize is bringing the nutritional benefits of Orange Corn to Americans whose eye health stands to benefit from increased carotenoid intake. To date, NutraMaize has made Orange Corn available in the U.S. through a line of premium milled products marketed under the brand “Professor Torbert's Orange Corn” which pays homage to company’s cofounder and his lifelong dedication to improving the world through science and agriculture. For more information on the story behind orange corn visit professortorberts.com.

Project Description:
The Ivy Tech research intern will participate in a research opportunity for community college students funded through a National Science Foundation (NSF) Small Business Technology Transfer Research (STTR) Grant. The aim of this project is to develop new varieties of NutraMaize’s Orange Corn suitable for large scale commercial application in the U.S.

The internship research activities will focus on plant breeding and will include activities such as seed preparation, planting, greenhouse work, controlled pollinations in the field, data collection, harvesting and post-harvest seed processing. There will also be the opportunity for students to engage in lab-based analyses. This internship will provide valuable hands on experience to students interested in entering a plant science or agronomy profession.

NutraMaize works closely with Purdue University, thus most of the work will be performed at Purdue facilities, including Lilly Hall, the attached greenhouses, Nelson Hall (food science pilot plant), the Agronomy Center for Research and Education (ACRE) farm, and the Indiana Corn and Soybean Innovation Center (ICSIC). Some activities will also take place at the Ivy Tech Shook-Pearlman Agriculture Program Laboratory Farm.

Core Responsibilities:
- Perform field and seed work.
- Perform lab-based analyses on various types of equipment.
- Assist in the performance of food processing experiments.
- Any other reasonable task related to the research project.
Qualifications:
- Applicant must be an Ivy Tech Student (Purdue Pathway Students encouraged)
- Comfortable working outdoors in an agricultural setting.
- Willingness to learn lab work.
- Detail-oriented and strong organizational skills.
- Excellent, team-oriented communication skills.

Work Hours and Payment:
The internship will begin in late March / early April 2022 and end in late March of 2023. During the academic year the internship is part time, during the summer of 2022 the internship will be full-time (40 hours/week). The selected candidate will receive $8,000 as an educational stipend disbursed throughout the project period.

Application:
Please submit a C.V. (and a brief cover letter if desired) for the research intern position to NutraMaize CEO, Evan Rocheford (evan@nutramaize.com). Applications will be considered on a rolling basis until a suitable candidate is identified.