

ICN Insider



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Educators looking for an ICN high school course for their students can post or view "want ads" at IowaLearningOnline.org.



Statewide Health Network Connects Hospitals

The Iowa Rural Healthcare Telecommunications Program (IRHTP) has officially connected seven hospitals to its statewide fiber-optic Network hosted by the ICN. The seven hospitals utilize private Ethernet services and Internet, provided by the ICN, to exchange medical information including radiology studies, electronic medical records, and remote ICU monitoring. In the future, this network will also form the backbone for the statewide Iowa Health Information Exchange.

IRHTP's overall goal is to deploy a secure, statewide, high-speed

network connecting rural hospitals to vital healthcare resources. Each IRHTP site purchased last-mile fiber access to their facility, and is participating in cost sharing to acquire network electronics. ICN's backbone completes the high-speed IRHTP core network by providing each core site with redundant 10 gigabit connections.

With these successes there is still work to be completed. Total for this project, ICN received service orders for 84 healthcare facilities. In the future with private sector partnerships, multiple medical clinics can also be connected to the Network.

ICN is responsible for: inventory control, electronics implementation and testing, connecting each health care site when the fiber path is installed, customer orders and service turn-up, and on-going maintenance.

ICN collaborated with the Iowa Hospital Association in the development of a detailed grant proposal submitted to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) under their USAC Rural Health Care Pilot Program (RHCPP). The FCC's grant funding will pay for 85 percent of the entire project.



Van Diest Medical Center, Webster City, Iowa
One of the first seven healthcare facilities connected to IRHTP's Network.

**Message from
Dave Lingren,
ICN's Executive
Director**

Finding mutual ground to be unified as one is my goal for ICN and most importantly, for Iowa's telecommunications industry. In the past, ICN has been viewed as a competitor against the private sector; however, ICN was established to be a public asset to assist the private sector. ICN represents the public's investment while partnered with the private sector to benefit the citizens of Iowa.

ICN's Involvement in USF Continues

ICN began its participation in the Universal Service Fund (USF) program in FY 2001, as a common carrier. USF helps provide communities across the country with affordable telecommunications services. For ICN to be eligible in the program, it must maintain common carrier status.

ICN is involved in two of the four USF programs, which are:

- The Schools and Libraries Program, which offers discounts for schools and libraries. ICN provides telecommunications discounts to 335 schools and 18 libraries in Iowa.
- The Rural Health Care Program offers

telecommunications discounts to health care providers. ICN provides discount support to 27 Iowa health care providers.

For questions relating to ICN's participation in USF, contact Angela Schneider at 515-725-4880.

For information about USF visit www.usac.org.

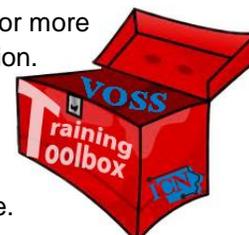
Scheduling Training Available on Website

ICN has created a webpage dedicated to frequently asked scheduling questions for your video site. The webpage consists of training videos and other interactive tools, such as Prezi presentations, to help answer questions about ICN's VOSS scheduling

system. Training topics include subjects such as: how to submit a no-transmit request, how to prevent room overbooking, and charging room usage fees. ICN's Video Administrator, Julie Johnson, guides schedulers on each topic and walks through the steps to successfully

complete and submit a reservation request. This webpage will serve as a useful resource and reference for new and experienced schedulers looking for more information.

Visit the [Training Toolbox](#) webpage.



Experience Iowa's Capitol and Processes

Allow your students to experience interactive sessions either touring Iowa's capitol or learning legislative processes via the video site located in your facility.

Since 1996, Joan Arnett, with the Legislative Services Agency, has been utilizing the ICN to actively inform students about Iowa's government.



Joan Arnett conducting an Iowa Capitol Virtual Tour video session.

Arnett said, "The ICN is a perfect way to reach those schools that are too far away to visit the Capitol, or their [school's] budgets don't allow them to visit."

Sessions available this month include: [Iowa Capitol Virtual Tour](#) and [Legislative Process in Iowa: Keeping Pace with State Government](#).

There are many informative, interactive sessions at no cost. Experience the power of your video site with IPTV's [K-12 Connections](#) and ICN. See page four for more information.

Assessment of the Broadband Market in Iowa

A new, detailed report titled [Iowa Broadband: Current Market Analysis & Initial Recommendations for Acceleration of Iowa's Broadband Market](#), offers the state's first look at key broadband market data that will be used to form a clear, strategic plan for broadband expansion in Iowa.

This report provides a review of the current status of broadband deployment in Iowa.

The Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) conducted the initial assessment of the state's broadband landscape based on the data collected from the [Connect Iowa](#) mapping and planning initiative.

The report is being used to support the work of the [Iowa Broadband Deployment Governance Board](#) (IBDGB). The IBDGB was charged with developing a comprehensive plan to promote the sustainable deployment and adoption of high speed broadband access in Iowa.

"The ICN is the country's premier fiber-optic Network, committed to continued enhancement of distance learning and providing Iowans with convenient, equal access to education, government, and healthcare."

Educators Participate in Mission US

Video site participants were involved in an Iowa Public Television's (IPTV) K-12 *Connections* video session workshop discussing **Mission US**, an innovative multimedia project designed to help middle school students learn about American History. Educators learned how to incorporate interactive games covering pivotal events in U.S. history and



related web resources to support game play and classroom teaching into the history classrooms.

Mission US - a revolutionary way to learn history-is live! Visit [Mission US](#) to access the interactive game "For Crown or Colony?" and

view the extensive teacher resources.

This *K-12 Connections* session was provided at no cost by IPTV in collaboration with the ICN to PK-12 students and the adults working with or on behalf of PK-12 students in Iowa.

ICN's Golden Dome Awards Nominees

The Governor's Golden Dome Awards are the highest form of employee recognition based on accomplishments during the previous fiscal year. For the past 10 years, state employees have had the opportunity to nominate their peers, managers, and team members to receive one



of the Governor's Golden Dome Awards. There are four categories: Governor's Excellence Award, Lt. Governor's

Employee Volunteer of the Year, Badge of Courage, and Team of the Year.

The Golden Dome Awards Ceremony will be held after the elections. This year, ICN submitted nominations for Edward Parker and Dave Swanson to the Governor's Office for the prestigious awards.



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Remember to visit ICN’s website at www.icn.state.ia.us to keep updated on all ICN related news.



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Upcoming Video Session for Students and Educator through Iowa Public Television’s Connections

Zoo Friends: Wild and Rare Animals

November 17, 12:30 PM - 1:20 PM & 1:30 PM - 2:20 PM; Audience: **Grades 3-6**



What is the difference between endangered, extinct and threatened? Why do animals become endangered? Join educators and animals from the Blank Park Zoo and learn why every creature is valuable to the earth's ecosystem. We'll hear success stories of endangered animals, meet some of the Zoo's animal ambassadors, and discover how people can make a difference!

Registration Deadline - Tuesday, November 9, 2010

Legislative Process in Iowa: Keeping Pace with State Government

November 19, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM; Audience **Grades 9-12**

This session provides an in-depth look into the legislative process and allows students to participate in that process. Classes will function as the House of Representatives or the Senate and will be assigned a topic to debate. They will elect presiding officers, appoint committee members, and experience the legislative process.

Each session is limited to two classes.

Registration Deadline - Tuesday, November 16, 2010



Animal Winter Preparation

November 19, multiple sessions available; Audience: **Grades K-5**



Where do animals go in the winter? How do they survive cold winter nights? Students learn different strategies animals use to prepare themselves for the long winter ahead. Find out which animals are true hibernators and discover that birds aren't the only animals that migrate. The program allows time for student questions, so come

Registration Deadline - Tuesday, November 16, 2010

For More Information about Upcoming K-12 Connections Contact:

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