



A Broadband Awareness Initiative from the [Iowa Communications Network](#)



Online learning opportunities and tools

A new resource that will provide online learning opportunities and tools to support educators as they navigate virtual learning environments and incorporate online instruction this fall.

Source: Iowa Dept of Education

ONLINE LEARNING

Education

[School Bus Wi-Fi Eligible for \\$20M in Iowa Internet Connectivity Funds](#)

School districts can apply for emergency relief funds to pay for school bus Wi-Fi routers, in an attempt to close the digital divide during virtual learning.

Source: School Transportation News

[The Building Blocks of Remote Learning](#)

With online instruction now essential rather than optional for K–12 success, how do schools make sure their IT infrastructure makes the grade?

Source: Ed Tech K-12

[With Online Video, Teachers Get Creative to Connect with Students](#)

While educators may have been forced into video instruction by the pandemic, many are finding the medium to their liking.

Source: Ed Tech K-12

[Remote learning: 3 online safety tips for kids and parents](#)

What parents should know about internet safety and secure browsing while kids are studying virtually.

Source: Today

Digital Divide

[DRAFT 2020 State of Iowa Broadband Availability Map](#)

The map identifies the locations and availability of broadband service in the State of Iowa and is open for public comment regarding accuracy of its data through Sept 21.

Source: Iowa OCIO

[Covid Lockdowns Expose the Digital Have-Nots in Rural Areas—These Policies Can Get Them Connected](#)

The problem has spurred many state governments to take an active role in trying to connect more rural communities to high-speed internet.

Source: Route Fifty

Healthcare

[FCC Pushes Telehealth Connectivity With Connected Care Pilot Program](#)

The \$100 million project unveiled in 2018 to improve access to telehealth for low-income Americans and veterans, will soon begin accepting applications.

Source: mHealth Intelligence

[We should push for more progress in telehealth](#)

Due to policy changes at the state and federal levels, the use of telehealth has grown faster in the past five months than in the preceding 25 years.

Source: The Hill

Cybersecurity

[Privacy alert: Your iPhone is tracking everywhere you go: Here's how to find the setting](#)

Some devices are more intrusive than others, and you may be feeding digital assistants more information than you realize. You can fight back.

Source: USA Today

[Conversations with a Phisher](#)

Phishing campaigns display varying levels of sophistication depending on how much time and effort the attackers are willing to invest in a particular target. We dive into the mind of the bad guys.

Source: KnowBe4

[Ransomware Is a Lurking Threat to U.S. Elections. Here's How](#)

As November looms, experts are concerned that ransomware may be the vector foreign hackers use to target critical infrastructure.

Source: Government Technology

Government

[How State IT Leaders Can Navigate a World Changed by the Coronavirus](#)

As agencies think about supporting remote work long term, they need to determine the kind of infrastructure that will make the most sense for their applications.

Source: State Tech

[University at Albany Uses AI to Forecast Winter Storms](#)

A group of researchers would like residents of the state of New York to start thinking of winter snow storm forecasting when they hear the term artificial intelligence.

Source: Government Technology

[Apple, Google: Contact tracing to become standard smartphone feature](#)

Future versions of phone operating systems will include a jointly developed COVID-19 contact tracing platform users can voluntarily turn on if their states are using it.

Source: StateScoop

The Iowa Communications Network is a state-of-the-art fiber optic network providing high-speed Internet, data, voice, security, and consulting [services](#) to Iowa's healthcare, education, government, and public safety sectors.