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

DHS, NSA Award Millions to Universities for Cybersecurity Workforce Development Plans

Tackling the challenge of filling public- and private-sector cybersecurity vacancies across the country from a national network of technical institutes.

Source: Nextgov

Cybersecurity

[How Vulnerable Is Critical Infrastructure to a Cyberattack?](#)
A string of new domestic and international cyberwarnings are raising new questions and alarm bells regarding global critical infrastructure protection.
Source: Government Technology

[Top tips for staying secure online](#)
Stay cyber safe all year long. Check out these top tips to ensure you are doing all you can to secure you and your family online.
Source: National Cyber Security Centre

[Warning after 75,000 'deleted' files found on used USB drives](#)
"Software is freely available that can permanently wipe USB drives, so if you are going to sell a device we would strongly recommend using that."
Source: BBC News

[FBI warns that hackers are targeting hospitals while coronavirus admissions surge](#)
An alert said that there is an imminent threat of ransomware attacks on American hospitals and health care providers.
Source: Vox

Healthcare

[Teletherapy has many benefits for Iowa patients](#)
Teletherapy allows clients to meet with providers via the internet while remaining in the convenience of their home.
Source: The Gazette

[Rural Public Libraries as Telehealth Providers During Covid-19](#)
A public library in Texas could become a blueprint for a national rural network of libraries providing access to telehealth.
Source: Daily Yonder

Education

[Nearly $4.4 million awarded to Iowa colleges and universities to expand student access to technology, increase internet connectivity](#)
Reimbursements for devices and software needed for virtual education or hotspots and other internet access.
Source: Iowa Dept of Education

[Teen Volunteers Support Online STEM Education Amid Pandemic](#)
Over the summer, high school volunteers for the nonprofit organization HumanWho virtually taught 10 different subjects, including robotics, entrepreneurship, and premed immersion.
Source: Government Technology

[Managing the Virtual and Hybrid Teaching Workload](#)
Teachers can work to mitigate stress by prioritizing what's most important—predictability, care, community, and learning. Here are a few strategies that can make the demands of this school year more sustainable over the long haul.
Source: Edutopia

Digital Divide

[COVID causes surge in Iowa rural broadband investment](#)
We have heard of several infusions of funding from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), but what does it all mean for Iowa's rural residents?
Source: Iowa Agribusiness Radio Network

[Gov. Reynolds announces $5 million in Empower Rural Iowa broadband grants](#)
COVID-19 underscored the urgency of connecting underserved & unserved areas to support online learning, telehealth & working from home.
Source: Governor of Iowa

[$1.8 Million for High-Speed Broadband in Rural Iowa](#)
USDA is committed to being a strong partner in deploying this critical infrastructure in Iowa. Money was awarded for projects in Mitchell, Cherokee, and Wapello County.
Source: US Dept of Agriculture

[Broadband internet coming to Wapello County](#)
Citizens Mutual will create high-speed broadband internet to 941 people, 40 farms and seven businesses in Wapello County's Green Township, which is in the southern part of the county.
Source: Ottumwa Courier

[Harmony Telephone Company receives award totaling $9.7 million for rural high-speed broadband](#)
Connecting 1,579 people, 96 farms and 31 businesses to high-speed broadband internet in Howard and Chickasaw counties in Iowa.
Source: Fillmore County Journal

Government

[Western Illinois City Finalizes New Broadband Partnership](#)
The Rock Falls, Ill., City Council has unanimously voted to lease the city's fiber broadband system for the build-out of the network to residents and businesses within the city.
Source: Government Technology

[Seven Local Governments Sign Up for CivStart Tech Program](#)
The program will involve the governments issuing challenges and pilot-testing potential solutions.
Source: Government Technology

Public Safety

Revamped MyPD App Offers News Feed, Browser Alerts

Now in the hands of about 100 law enforcement agencies across the country, the fourth iteration of the MyPD app has new features, ease of use and an assurance of privacy.
Source: Government Technology

FirstNet is Interoperability

Whether responding to a routine call or major emergency, first responders need to be able to communicate seamlessly. In this blog, CEO Edward Parkinson shares how FirstNet is solving the interoperability issues that have challenged public safety for decades.
Source: FirstNet

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.