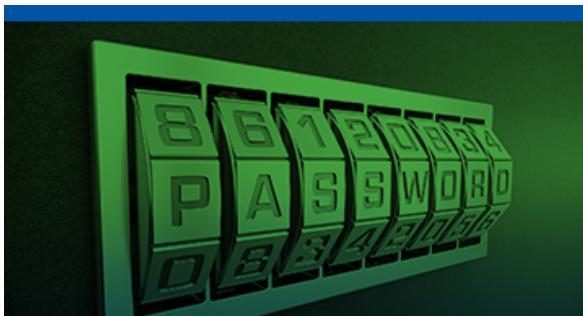




A Broadband Awareness Initiative from the [Iowa Communications Network](#)



## 4 Simple Steps to a Rock-Solid Password

Advanced persistent threat groups continue to target K-12 schools. Small adjustments can make a big difference in protecting your data and devices from threat actors.

Source: EdTech Focus on K-12

## SAFEGUARD YOUR DATA

## Education

### What it Means to Be a Woman in Tech

Only 18% of women in the US pursue computer and information sciences degrees. Once the next generation of young women knows what it means to be a woman in tech, hopefully we will see fewer low statistics.

Source: Iowa Stem

## Cybersecurity

### Here's the Technology Government Needs in 2021

This year, \$118.7 billion in technology spending is projected for state and local governments.

Industry experts shared their projections along with challenges facing the market.

Source: Government Technology

### How Virginia Tech's IT Security Office uses forensics to solve cyber incidents

During forensic investigations, the goal is not only to figure out how they performed the attack, but also how to identify & protect against it in the future.

Source: Virginia Tech Daily

### Free cybersecurity competition for Veterans

Top performers in the annual challenge invited for professional Cyber Camps training

Source: Dept of Veterans Affairs

## Government

### How Can Government Defend Against DDoS Attacks?

A DDoS attack is a cyberattack from multiple, remote locations intended to cripple an organization's online operations, and it's one of the top four cybersecurity threats of our time.

Source: Government Technology

### Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship Piloting Online Commercial Pesticide Applicator Testing

This technology offers "flexibility to take the exam from their homes or offices given the current public

health guidelines."

Source: Red Oak Express

## Digital Divide

### [\*\*New FCC Program to Help Low-Income Households with Internet\*\*](#)

The program is lauded by Navajo Nation leaders because it will strengthen Internet access for tribal members.

Source: Government Technology

### [\*\*How Library Closures Hurt Adult Learners as Kids Doubled Down on Digital Reading\*\*](#)

15% of U.S. adults lost their main source of internet access as libraries started to shut down. 31% used it for "academic research or a school assignment."

Source: Ed Surge

### [\*\*100Mbps uploads and downloads should be US broadband standard, senators say\*\*](#)

Pandemic showed that "upload speeds far greater than 3Mbps are critical." The current FCC broadband standard of 25Mbps down / 3Mbps up was established in 2015.

Source: ArsTechnica

## Healthcare

### [\*\*One year in, broadband access and telehealth are two big winners under COVID-19\*\*](#)

Both parties long advocated better internet broadband access and more use of telehealth; the coronavirus made it happen

Source: Roll Call

### [\*\*Expansion of remote tech can help safeguard care for people with disabilities\*\*](#)

A new report finds that telehealth could play a vital role in helping to better support the needs of those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Source: Healthcare IT News

### [\*\*The Chair of the Board of the American Telemedicine Association Answers Your Questions About Telemedicine\*\*](#)

Joe Kvedar, MD, the chair of the board of the American Telemedicine Association answers a variety of questions about telehealth.

Source: GoodRx

## Public Safety

### [\*\*FirstNet Surpasses 2.71 Million Square Miles Supporting More Than 2 Million Connections\*\*](#)

FirstNet continues to gain momentum with over 2M connections, 15K+ public safety agencies, 210+ FirstNet Ready devices, 160+ apps in the #FirstNet App catalog, and much more! Discover how the network is growing:

Source: FirstNet

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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.