



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

We are looking for two individuals to join our team as a Firewall Administrator (Telecommunications Specialist Senior) and Telecommunications Administrator for our Business Services Bureau.

To learn more about these positions visit: <https://icn.iowa.gov/careers>



Central Iowa Broadband Internet Survey

Many Iowans have lightning-fast internet service while others wait for files to download. Current maps of service provide an incomplete picture that limits development and funding options.

Source: DSM Partnership

Public Safety

[Iowa taps into FirstNet for 911 backup](#)

Under the agreement, connected PSAPs will automatically reroute 911 calls from ICN to FirstNet to keep callers wirelessly connected.

Source: GCN

[FirstNet Partnership Kicks Off Fifth Year, Brings Initial 5G Investment to FirstNet](#)

The FirstNet Authority is here to ensure FirstNet, public safety's network, continues to help first responders in their lifesaving missions.

Source: FirstNet

Digital Divide

[FCC allocates Iowa the 17th highest portion of funding to address digital divide](#)

Through the Phase I Auction, the FCC has assigned nearly \$144 million to 11 broadband providers to bring the service to rural Iowa through 54 internet locations, according to data from satelliteinternet.com.

Source: The Center Square

[Key Lessons for Policymakers and the Public About Expanding Broadband Access](#)

A collection of expert interviews on deployment, speed, infrastructure, and the accelerating trend toward life online

Source: Pew Trusts

[Biden's plan to fix America's broken internet, briefly explained](#)

Biden called broadband internet "the new electricity," comparing the need for a federal initiative to bring it to all Americans to the Rural Electrification Act of 1936.

Source: Recode

Education

[Udacity Adds School of Cybersecurity](#)

Online learning platform Udacity has launched a School of Cybersecurity, a set of nanodegree programs aimed at training the next generation of cybersecurity professionals.

Source: Campus Technology

[8 Higher Education IT Trends to Watch in 2021](#)

Keep your eye on these trends as higher education prepares for a post-pandemic future.

Source: Ed Tech Magazine

[Old, Slow Laptops Are Sabotaging College Student Success](#)

One in 10 college students reported their primary learning device was not equipped to perform a task required for a course; survey nearly 9,500 students from 58 colleges & universities.

Source: Ed Surge

Healthcare

[As telehealth visits become more common, here are ways you can make the most of your consultation](#)

Whether it's your first consultation or for long-term care, here's how to make the most of any telehealth visit.

Source: Washington Post

[Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grants](#)

The program helps rural communities use the unique capabilities of telecommunications to connect to each other and to the world, overcoming the effects of remoteness and low population density.

Source: USDA

[The Facts About Telehealth](#)

Got questions about protecting your privacy while using #telehealth or if it will be more costly OR save you money? We've put together the answers and FREE resources.

Source: Connected Nation

Government

[FCC wants to hear from Americans who've been ignored by broadband industry](#)

Consumer stories will help FCC as it inches toward geospatial broadband maps.

Source: Arstechnica

[Iowa senate passes broadband bill](#)

The Iowa Senate unanimously passed the House File 848 Tuesday night, a bill that would set up a system of grants for broadband providers in an attempt to boost internet access in rural parts of the state.

Source: Clay and Milk

Cybersecurity

[Scammers target universities in ongoing IRS phishing attacks](#)

The attacks use tax refund payment baits and mainly focus on universities' staff and students with .edu email addresses.

Source: Bleeping Computer

[Best Cybersecurity Higher Education Program](#)

The finalists being recognized for offering the best cybersecurity undergraduate or higher education program through quality instruction and comprehensive training for students seeking a degree.

Source: SC Magazine

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.