



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

We are looking for two Telecommunications Administrators to lead our teams...

Business Services Bureau Manager and Facilities & Technical Assistance (TAC) Bureau Manager.

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

Searching for High School Students to discuss broadband and Internet topics, learn about Iowa technology companies, and discover technology careers. Apply for the **Statewide Youth Broadband Advisory Council (SYBAC)** for the 2021-2022 school year by May 14. <https://icn.iowa.gov/sybac>

States can play greater role in shaping grid cybersecurity

State governments can improve the resiliency of grid operators and other utilities against cyberattacks by forming policy committees and advisory boards that bring together policymakers, officials and industry representatives, says the National Governors Association.

Source: State Scoop



CYBERSECURITY

Government

[Sen. Kinney Hopes Expanded Broadband in Iowa Will Attract Job Seekers](#)

The need for expanded broadband became very apparent during the pandemic as schools went online, more people worked from home, and medical appointments

Source: KCII Radio

Cybersecurity

[Nonprofit provides help to hospitals battling ransomware](#)

The Center for Internet Security recently launched a free tool for private U.S. hospitals to block malicious activity.

Source: TechRepublic

[White House launches cybersecurity push targeting electricity sector](#)

Push to modernize cybersecurity defenses, including enhancing detection, mitigation and forensic capabilities of the nation's electricity infrastructure.

Source: FCW

Healthcare

[FCC will accept applications for its \\$250M COVID-19 telehealth program starting April 29](#)

Interested providers can submit their applications through a portal to be made available on the FCC's COVID-19 Telehealth Program webpage.

Source: Fierce Healthcare

[UnitedHealth's Optum To Broaden Telehealth Offerings In All 50 States](#)

The effort is "integrating physical care, virtual care, home care and behavioral care."

Source: Forbes

Digital Divide

[To build a healthy community, address the digital divide and telemedicine equity in Iowa](#)

One segment of the population that is being hurt by the steady rise of telemedicine: those who are digitally divided.

Source: Des Moines Register

[Illinois Law May Mandate Nursing Home Virtual Visit Options](#)

Nursing home residents isolated by the COVID-19 pandemic would be able to visit loved ones virtually under a proposal being considered by Illinois lawmakers.

Source: Government Technology

Education

[Art teacher uses technology to support students' work](#)

The website Artsonia curates 80 million pieces of student art, and works with teachers to create online school art galleries and student art portfolios.

Source: The Brunswick News

[9 Reasons Why Campus Online Learning Teams Should Be Permanently Remote](#)

Planning for the post-pandemic university when there is a mismatch between the demand for online learning (high) & the supply of staff who can do this work (low).

Source: Inside Higher Ed

[Annual skilled trades event provides hands-on learning](#)

More than 2,500 high school and junior high students from nearly 80 Iowa schools are attending the interactive event to gain valuable insight into potential careers in skilled trades.

Source: Iowa Dept of Education

Libraries

[Public Libraries Can Tap into Eligible Funds Worth Billions](#)

The American Rescue Plan allocates \$200 million for libraries through an independent federal agency that provides grants to libraries and museums.

Source: Governing

[Libraries Must Be Vigilant To Ensure Adequate Broadband, Consultants Say](#)

Libraries should monitor their broadband speeds and ensure they are getting quality connections.

Source: Broadband Breakfast

ICN is Iowa's only authorized anchor giving exclusive access to Internet2 services and research facilities for our education users.

Public Safety

[FirstNet rolling out 5G, tower-to-core encryption](#)

The FirstNet wireless broadband network for public safety is getting two new capabilities: 5G connectivity and tower-to-core encryption.

Source: GCN

[National 911 Program publishes resource on NG911 transition for dispatchers](#)

The new resource is the latest in a series of publications for fire, EMS and law enforcement leaders to better understand Next Generation 911

Source: Gov 1

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.