



A Broadband Awareness Initiative from the [Iowa Communications Network](#)
Weekly Update: November 4, 2021

Iowa Communications Network: Serving Iowans in a Time of Crisis

When the pandemic completely changed how we thought of teaching and learning, Iowa Communications Network (ICN), the state-owned research and education network, made quick decisions to adapt its business methods and increase connections for all the community anchor institutions it serves throughout the state.

Source: Internet2 Community Anchor Program

Iowa Related

[Sioux Center school nurse stays connected](#)

Sioux Center High School students have a new way to talk with a doctor from Sioux Center Health without having to leave the school.

Source: Sioux Center News

[2021 Digital Health Most Wired Results](#)

Iowa healthcare facilities listed: Broadlawns Medical Center, Genesis Health System, Mary Greeley Medical Center, Mercy Medical Center – Cedar Rapids and the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

Source: CHIME: College of Healthcare Information Management Executives

Sector Related

Education

[E-rate Trends Shows Need for Network Security Funding](#)

Key 2021 report findings include:

- E-rate remains a vital program for schools and libraries to achieve connectivity.
- Network security is a critical issue deserving of E-rate support.
- Applicants see the E-rate program's administration in a positive light.

Source: Funds for Learning

[Texas A&M Cyber Center Offers New Training Program](#)

A new Cyber Training and Exercise Range at Texas A&M University, part of its Cyber Readiness Center, allows other government organizations to train their employees with cyber attack simulations and hands-on exercises.

Source: Government Technology

Government

[Whole-of-State Cybersecurity Gains Ground in Government](#)

Governments are embracing a larger role in collective cybersecurity, creating cross-jurisdictional

partnerships to make states, cities and counties more secure. Here's what that looks like in practice.
Source: Government Technology

[Three cities are building a broadband speed-test app with Esri](#)

The mapping technology firm Esri announced Monday it's joining forces with the National League of Cities to help three communities spot gaps in their broadband service.

Source: Statescoop

Healthcare

[Top 5 Jobs in Cybersecurity for Healthcare](#)

Explore healthcare cybersecurity careers in the areas of network security, risk assessment, medical device security and more.

Source: Touro College Illinois

[Federal grant will help bring telemedicine to one of the state's most rural counties](#)

A rural county in central Wisconsin was awarded a federal grant last week that will help paramedics offer telemedicine to its small and scattered population.

Source: Wisconsin Public Radio

Public Safety

[NextGen 911 and the Future of Emergency Management](#)

Almost every emergency response begins with a call to 911, and states have begun the process of modernizing the current outdated call-center answering infrastructure with a digital upgrade. NextGen 911 (NG911) is the modernization initiative states are implementing to better facilitate emergency response.

Source: Security Boulevard

[The impact of FirstNet on tribal communities in a post 9/11 world](#)

Today, the FirstNet network provides over 2.71 million square miles of coverage, and new cell sites are launching nationwide, including in tribal communities such as the Nez Perce Reservation in Idaho, the Spirit Lake Reservation in North Dakota, and the Yankton Sioux Reservation in South Dakota.

Source: FirstNet Authority

Digital Divide

[USDA Prime Broadband](#)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced that on November 24, USDA will begin accepting applications for up to \$1.15 billion in loans and grants to expand the availability of broadband in rural areas.

Source: Benton Institute for Broadband & Society

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.