Broadband News
FROM AROUND THE WEB

A Broadband Awareness Initiative from the Iowa Communications Network
Weekly Update: February 24, 2022

FCC Grants Request to Extend Emergency Connectivity Fund

Schools and libraries have more time to spend funds recently awarded to them through the FCC Emergency Connectivity Fund for expanding Internet access through June 2023.

Source: Government Technology

Iowa Related

Tuition free cybersecurity class to be offered in Cedar Rapids for eight people looking to jumpstart career
DeltaV Code School will offer the free course in March, thanks to newly awarded state funding for the program through Future Ready Iowa.
Source: KCRG-TV9

Iowa's dsmHack reschedules charity hackathon, seeks nonprofits in need of assistance
The annual event—held every year since 2014, except 2021—seeks to implement software-based solutions for non-profit organizations that impact the local community.
Source: Silicon Prairie News

Sector Related

Healthcare

Top 15 specialties for telehealth
Telehealth adoption rates are highest for specialties that manage chronic illness, according to the "State of Telemedicine" report.
Source: Becker's Hospital Review

5 Ways AI and Deep Learning Enhance Patient Care and Hospital Operations
Forward-thinking organizations are looking beyond typical use cases and using AI in areas such as robotics, image and voice analysis, and collaborative research.
Source: HealthTech Magazine

Education

K–12 Districts Choose Chromebooks for Educators to Elevate Teaching and Learning
Popular as student devices, Chromebooks are a dynamic and powerful tool for educators in the classroom and at home.
Source: EdTech: Focus on K-12

[The Evolution of Technology in K–12 Classrooms: 1659 to Today](#)
Educational technology isn't new, but meaningfully integrating tech in a modern learning environment can be a significant challenge for educators today.
Source: EdTech: Focus on K-12

[Tech-Focused High School in Miami to Start This Fall](#)
A free charter school will enlist Miami Dade College faculty to prepare students for certifications in cybersecurity, cloud computing or data analytics.
Source: Center for Digital Education

Public Safety

[FirstNet at 10: A Decade of Dedication to Public Safety](#)
February 22 was the 10th anniversary of that milestone legislation that launched the organization and mission to create a reliable network for public safety to help them communicate and share information during emergencies and daily operations.
Source: FirstNet

[Nebraska begins implementation of new 911 system](#)
Next Generation 911 (NG911), a new emergency service system that is capable of receiving information including voice, text, pictures, and videos.
Source: KLKN-TV

Government

[Crowd-Sourced Broadband Maps Often More Useful Than Government Efforts, Panel Says](#)
Broadband maps created using crowd-sourced data can often be more useful in planning internet access.
Source: Broadband Breakfast

Cybersecurity

[Cyber Refresher: Understanding Multifactor Authentication](#)
Multifactor authentication is a key part of zero-trust security, and a method promoted by the likes of CISA. It aims to block out hackers who — in this age of data breaches — manage to steal users' passwords.
Source: Government Technology

[Cyber Insurance Companies Raising Rates, Tightening Requirements](#)
Insurers have begun requiring organizations buying policies to prove that their network security is in tip-top shape before they even get a quote, let alone active coverage.
Source: Campus Technology

[Report Confirms Baltimore, Md., was Duped by Phishing Scam](#)
Baltimore fell victim to a phishing scam last year when a hacker posed as a city vendor. Since the scam, new cyber policies have been established.
Source: Government Technology

Digital Divide

[Broadband expansion depends on reliable data](#)
Report: Before states expand their broadband infrastructure, they must first improve their mapping and data collection to ensure they have an accurate picture of where households lack connectivity.
Source: GCN

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.