



A Broadband Awareness Initiative from the [Iowa Communications Network](#)
Weekly Update: September 24, 2021



Join Our Team. ICN is looking for a Telecommunications Specialist Senior to assist the State and oversee multiple projects at over 1500 sites. [Learn more and apply.](#)

Iowa Related

[The latest push for broadband in Iowa](#)

The goal by the end of 2021 is to connect every Iowan with basic broadband: 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload. Then the goal increases to broadband connections of 100 Mbps by 2025.
Source: The Gazette

[Shane Dwyer to Serve as Iowa Chief Information Security Officer](#)

Former Wisconsin Department of Health Services CISO Shane Dwyer brings considerable public-sector experience to his new role as Iowa's state CISO.
Source: Government Technology

Telehealth: A revolution to patient-centered healthcare

How the COVID-19 pandemic didn't just shift healthcare administration, it also shifted its mindset.

Source: Cisco



Sector Related

Healthcare

[Study shows telehealth effectiveness in behavioral health](#)

A recent survey found 2/3 of behavioral health providers were providing more than half their services via telehealth; 86% of those surveyed want to continue using telehealth.
Source: State of Reform

[3 Ways To Prepare for a Virtual Doctor Appointment](#)

Though different from an in-person appointment, virtual visits can be just as effective and helpful when done right.
Source: Orlando Health

Education

[Extending the Life Span of Computers, Laptops and Notebooks](#)

To navigate supply chain shortages, post-secondary schools must make the most of existing hardware. Here are some tips for increasing the lifespan of computers.

Source: Ed Tech: Focus on Higher Education

[Should schools retain online parents' evenings?](#)

Virtual versions of parents' evening were, in many people's books, one of the runaway successes of remote learning.

Source: Yahoo News

Government

[Emergency Broadband Benefit still has \\$2.7B out of \\$3.2B available](#)

The EBB program allows eligible households to receive a discount to their broadband bill of up to \$50 per month or \$75 per month if the household is on a Tribal land.

Source: Fierce Telecom

Public Safety

[Alumna-led nonprofit aims to empower female emergency dispatchers](#)

New nonprofit raises money to provide mental health resources, training, outreach and other programming to emergency dispatchers.

Source: Penn State University

Libraries

[Digital Navigators Toolkit Equips Libraries with a Proven Framework for Meeting the Full Spectrum of Local Digital Needs](#)

The toolkit includes guidance and resources for determining community needs & training Digital Navigators.

Source: Urban Libraries Council

Cybersecurity

[Five Signs of Social Engineering](#)

Social engineering can come in many different forms: via email, websites, voice calls, SMS messages, social media and even fax. Although the communication's method may vary, the message the scammer is trying to convey has five traits in common.

Source: KnowBe4

[New K-12 Cybersecurity Standards Released](#)

The resources were developed by K-12 IT practitioners, for K-12 IT practitioners, and are aligned to cybersecurity risk management best practices.

Source: MeriTalk

Digital Divide

[Internet funding rule could favor rural areas over cities](#)

Some cities are urging the Treasury Department to define underserved areas as anything less than internet download and upload speeds of 100 Mbps.

Source: We Are Iowa 5 News

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.