



A Broadband Awareness Initiative from the [Iowa Communications Network](#)
Weekly Update: October 1, 2021



Education Alert... FCC opened the 2nd filing window for the Emergency Connectivity Fund.

Don't miss the chance to secure funding to help close the homework gap. K-12 Leaders - learn the details about ECF. Deadline October 13!

Source: Ed Tech: Focus on K-12

ICN's [Hotspot service](#) qualifies for the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) program.

Iowa Related

[John Deere Invests in STEM Resources for Iowa Schools](#)

In support of STEM education, the tractor company is donating FIRST robotics class packs to the district. It is also supporting elementary and middle school mentors for students.

Source: Government Technology

Sector Related

Education

[Quarantines challenge Ohio schools again on remote education](#)

At times, teachers taught from home. Other times some students were in class while others were home in quarantine.

Source: Newark Advocate

Government

[Tennessee Testbed to Study Connected Vehicles, Traffic Flow](#)

A six-mile traffic technology testbed will utilize 300 high-definition cameras to analyze and understand traffic flow and include researchers from major universities / automakers.

Source: Government Technology

[5 Ways State and Local Governments Can Enhance Election Security Preparedness](#)

Although hacking elections used to be a hypothetical scenario, the last few election cycles have revealed how hackers are going to continue to target elections.

Source: StateRAMP

[Indiana to Kick Off Rural Broadband Program](#)

Beginning next week, Indiana households and businesses can express interest in the Indiana Connectivity Program which aims to spread high-speed Internet to the underserved and unserved.

Source: Government Technology

Healthcare

[Akron, Ohio, Ambulances Now Feature Telehealth Technology](#)

By using telehealth & collaborating with the Cleveland Clinic, Akron's EMTs and paramedics can now let patients talk to a physician before they make the trip to the emergency room.

Source: Government Technology

[Taking stock of the sudden evolution of telemedicine](#)

A virtual care expert leads readers through the recent history of telehealth and offers tips on new medical services that can be delivered via telehealth while complying with HIPAA.

Source: Healthcare IT News

Public Safety

[Your Agency, Your Needs, Your Network](#)

FirstNet is America's public safety network, built with and for first responders. Hear more about what makes your network Mission Ready.

Source: FirstNet

[Naperville, Ill., Now Allows Citizens to Text 911 for Help](#)

Currently the option should only be used when a caller is deaf, hard-of-hearing or speech impaired or if speaking aloud would put the caller in danger.

Source: Government Technology

Digital Divide

[FCC Commits \\$1.2+ Billion in ECF Funding to Connect 3.6M Students](#)

A second application filing window opens September 28, to provide funding for eligible equipment & services received or delivered between July 1, 2021 & June 30, 2022.

Source: MeriTalk

[Treasury Ready to Send Billions to States for Broadband Projects](#)

The program allocates money for eligible governments to carry out critical capital projects that directly enable work, education, and health monitoring, including remote.

Source: Benton Institute

Cybersecurity

[Do Your Part. #BeCyberSmart.](#)

It's October and the 18th year of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month (NCSAM) continuing to raise awareness about the importance of cybersecurity. Watch our social media for cyber tips each week.



[National Day of Civic Hacking and 911](#)

This year's National Day of Civic Hacking took aim at improving 911 and emergency response services. The weekend saw volunteers join from 25 countries resulting in 2,500 hours of work.

Source: Government Technology

[Taking meaningful steps toward stronger security](#)

Understanding the threats that face the government and its partners is critical as is taking meaningful steps to address potential vulnerabilities.

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.