



A Broadband Awareness Initiative from the [Iowa Communications Network](#)
Weekly Update: December 9, 2021

We are Hiring!

ICN is seeking two field technicians within the Technical Assistance Center.
Application deadline is December 19.

ICN is seeking an accountant to perform internal audit duties and other revenue review
and expense control tasks. Application deadline is January 6.

Apply Today: [Communications Technician 2](#) | [Accountant 2](#)

Equipment Upgrades Completed for Healthcare Network

ICN upgraded 191 locations of either physical hardware or virtual connections to Iowa hospitals and clinics statewide. These locations are connected to the Iowa Rural Health Telecommunications Program (IRHTP), which is the healthcare network managed by the Iowa Hospital Association.



Iowa Related

[Internet providers await federal broadband dollars](#)

A \$65 billion investment in rural broadband was included in the federal infrastructure bill, but a slow mapping process has obscured where that money can be spent in Iowa.

Source: The Daily Iowan

Sector Related

Government

[Study Examines Benefits, Equity Gaps of Civil Court Tech](#)

Virtual hearings and e-filing tools bring convenience — but not to everyone. Individuals representing themselves in civil cases can struggle with limited digital offerings and user experiences designed for lawyers.

Source: Government Technology

Healthcare

[Talking about Telehealth, FCC Mapping Issues on States, Broadband's Impact on Critical Infrastructure](#)

Settles' work combines community-empowerment and broadband deployment strategies to deliver telehealth services to places in need.

Source: Broadband Breakfast

[CVS inks tech partnership with Microsoft to accelerate its 'digital-first' strategy](#)

Microsoft's capabilities and the Azure cloud computing service will provide CVS with a "technology-forward, digital-first" foundation as it works to ramp up its consumer-centric digital strategy.

Source: Fierce Healthcare

[Telehealth may be here to stay](#)

Its future depends largely on whether state lawmakers extend emergency measures that made telehealth a viable alternative for patients and providers.

Source: PBS News Hour

Education

[Sacramento tests AI-powered cameras for school buses](#)

Data from the cameras and on-board sensors will be used to learn where and when violations occur so it can improve enforcement at violation hotspots.

Source: GCN

[Digital ID use doubled among MIT students in September](#)

Digital IDs were used for more than 50,000 transactions in September, allowing students, staff and faculty to access buildings, pay for food and complete print jobs via the MIT Atlas mobile app.

Source: EdScoop

Public Safety

[Next-Gen 911 Dispatch Tech Provider Comtech Raises \\$100M](#)

This solution can offer "a bird's-eye view of integrated data" for public safety.

Source: Government Technology

Cybersecurity

[Live-fire cyber training slashes incident response time](#)

The training is critical because the number of attacks on the office has increased by 800% since 2019. After 18 months of drills, security teams have cut response time from a week to an hour.

Source: GCN

[How Common Are Ransomware Attacks? Lawmakers Want to Find Out.](#)

Indiana last year, signed a law requiring all public agencies to report cyberattacks to the state.

Source: The Pew Charitable Trusts

Digital Divide

[Why this is a critical moment for education access](#)

The pandemic exposed major gaps in the digital divide. Now is the time to fix them.

Source: Fast Company

[Addressing The Digital Divide: Technology and Internet Access for Students in Underserved Communities](#)

Although 87% of households have access to a computer or another internet-enabled device, only 73% of households have access to the internet.

Source: Forbes

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.