



A Broadband Awareness Initiative from the [Iowa Communications Network](#)
Weekly Update: April 14, 2022

SYBAC applications are open!

The Statewide Youth Broadband Advisory Council (SYBAC) is a unique opportunity for motivated high school students to research and discuss broadband and Internet topics, learn about Iowa technology companies, and discover technology careers.

Learn more & apply here: <https://icn.iowa.gov/sybac>



Cyber Crime Is More Costly Than Ever — What Can Be Done?

People lost more than \$6.9 billion to internet crimes in 2021, a jump of more than \$2 billion from 2020, according to the FBI's annual Internet Crime Report.

Source: Government Technology

Iowa Focus

[It's National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week!](#)

Knowing what to expect when you call 911 may assist you in staying calm, which can help dispatchers get the right emergency assistance out in a timely manner.

Thank you, emergency dispatchers, for keeping Iowans safe!

Source: Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD)

ICN is proud to partner with HSEMD in providing a 911 network infrastructure.

[Infrastructure law to boost high-speed rural internet](#)

President Biden's bipartisan infrastructure law has the chance to bring Americans universal high-speed internet, according to infrastructure bill coordinator Mitch Landrieu.

Source: Iowa Agribusiness Radio Network

Sector Focus

Government

[The Benefits of Digital Payments Automation for Local Government](#)

Digital billing can improve collection efficiencies, reduce call volumes and save organizational costs and resources.

Source: Route Fifty

[Michigan Corrections Expands New Learning System Statewide](#)

The Michigan Department of Corrections is expanding the learning management system it first evaluated last year to broaden education opportunities for offenders and better prepare them for

their re-entry transition.

Source: Government Technology

Healthcare

[Remote Patient Monitoring Program Effective in Treating COVID-19](#)

Through a home monitoring program, clinicians at U of Iowa hospital were successfully able to identify and treat COVID-19 patients, including those who were high-risk.

Source: mHealth Intelligence

[VA study shows benefits of telestroke program for patients](#)

The initiative allows a remote specialist to evaluate individuals via a mobile device and provide a treatment plan for on-site staff to carry out.

Source: Healthcare IT News

Education

[Transforming Higher Education for the Hybrid Future](#)

Hybrid learning is here to stay, and virtual reality and esports are among the tools that are gaining popularity as higher ed adjusts to this new landscape.

Source: EdTech: Focus on Higher Ed

[New York Schools to Swap Diesel Buses for Electric by 2035](#)

The New York state budget enacted Friday requires that all school buses purchased after 2027 be electric and the state's 50,000 diesel buses be phased out, which will require charging stations and other infrastructure.

Source: Center for Digital Education

Cybersecurity

[We Know the Threats, So Why Aren't We Getting Better at Cyber?](#)

Government agencies have heard about the best practices, read the recommended frameworks and implemented some solid cybersecurity strategies, yet attacks continue to rise. Here's how to keep improving.

Source: Government Technology

ICN offers [DDoS Mitigation and Managed Firewall services](#).

Our customers may contact our dedicated staff as a security go-to resource.

[4 Tips for Securing Remote Workers in Higher Education](#)

Adopting a risk-based approach to remote work at your #university can protect remote employees from security risks.

Source: EdTech: Focus on Higher Ed

Digital Divide

[Understanding the Digital Equity Gap and Bridging the Digital Divide in Higher Ed](#)

Broadband internet, hotspots and other measures can increase student access to digital tools.

Source: EdTech: Focus on K-12

Misc

[How QR Codes Work and What Makes Them Dangerous – a Computer Scientist Explains](#)

What's the worst that could happen when you scan one of those ubiquitous two-dimensional black-and-white patterns? An expert explains.

Source: Government Technology

[Your Digital Footprint: It's Bigger Than You Realize](#)

Just about everything about you is online, whether you put it there or not.

Source: CNET

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.