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Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2022

Today's headlines:

- [Workforce funding available to Iowa hospitals and health systems](#)
- [COVID-19 accelerated and payment recovery rate to increase](#)
- [IHA releases latest hospital data trends](#)
- [IHA members encouraged to attend AHA's annual meeting in Washington, D.C.](#)
- [IHA'S 2022 Governance Forum looks at impact of COVID-19](#)
- [Registration open for EMTALA web series](#)
- [Wade Weis named CEO at Buchanan County Health in Independence](#)
- [Stacy Johnson, Loring Hospital CEO/CFO, announces resignation](#)

Workforce funding available to Iowa hospitals and health systems

Iowa hospitals and health systems continue to struggle with a health care workforce shortage, but federal and state funding can help lessen the burden. Two funding opportunities were announced to help alleviate the workforce issues for Iowa

hospitals:

- Future Ready Iowa Summer Youth Internship Project grants.
- Federal Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education program funding.

Future Ready Iowa

Applications are being accepted for the state's Future Ready Iowa Summer Youth Internship Project grants. The program helps students explore [high-demand jobs](#), including health care and bioscience jobs, while gaining work experience.

The state announced \$250,000 is available for programs this summer. Priority is given to programs that offer internships to high school students at risk of not graduating, come from low-income households, are members of underrepresented communities or face barriers to success in the labor market.

Grants can be used for services and resources to support costs of participants including:

- Clothing.
- Internship wages.
- Staff time.
- Training.
- Transportation.

The deadline to apply is Wednesday, March 2.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education Program

The Health Resources and Services Administration announced it will release a second round of funding for the Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education Program because fewer applications were received in the first round than anticipated. The program supports residents in primary care residency training programs in community-based ambulatory patient care centers.

Payments will be made for:

- Expansion awards to support more resident full-time equivalent positions at existing HRSA Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education programs.
- Awards to support new resident full-time equivalent positions at new teaching health centers.

\$19.2 million is available through the second round and will fund 30 awards for a four-year performance period from July 1 to June 30, 2026.

Applications are due March 31.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

IHA's advocacy team is working with legislators to identify more ways to help build a robust health care workforce in Iowa. IHA-supported bills have been introduced into

subcommittees addressing staffing shortages, including loan repayment programs and tort reform. To stay up to date about health care legislation, visit IHA's bill tracker [HERE](#).



COVID-19 accelerated and payment recovery rate to increase

In accordance with the requirements of the 2021 Continuing Appropriations Act and Other Extensions Act, the 25% automatic recoupment rate for the COVID-19 accelerated and payment recovery will stay in place for the first 11 months of the recoupment period. After 11 months, the recoupment rate will increase to 50% and remain in effect for six months.

For example, if Medicare began recoupment April 1, 2021, the recoupment rate will automatically increase from 25% to 50% March 1, 2022, and continue for six months.

Providers and suppliers associated with a single tax identification number in the same Medicare administrative contractor jurisdiction will continue to be grouped together to ensure the netting is capped at the appropriate recoupment rate.

If the COVID-19 accelerated and payment recovery is not fully recovered within 29 months from the original issuance date, a demand letter will be issued for the remaining balance and normal recovery activities will apply.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Email AccAdvPymtReq@wpsic.com with questions.

IHA releases latest hospital data trends

IHA has collected data trends from 99 Iowa hospitals for [January-November 2021](#) as compared with the same time frame in 2020:

- Acute discharges increased 0.4% as acute patient days increased 5.3%.
- Ambulatory surgery visits (hospital-based) increased 16.2%.
- Average length of stay remained the same.
- Births stayed the same.
- Charity care increased 1%.
- Emergency Department visits increased 9.6%.
- Facility employment (excluding physicians) increased 8.9%.
- Inpatient admissions from the emergency department increased 2.8%.
- Inpatient surgeries decreased 6.4%.
- Medicaid acute discharges increased 3.2% and Medicaid acute patient days increased 0.3%.
- Net patient revenue (collected charges) increased 11.7%.
- Outpatient utilization increased 20.1%.
- Total expenses increased 3.7%.
- Uncompensated care (bad debts) increased 8.8%.

Email [Allison Martin](#) at IHA with questions.

IHA members encouraged to attend AHA's annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

For the first time since 2019, the American Hospital Association will hold its annual meeting in person in Washington, D.C. Iowa hospital CEOs and trustees are encouraged to attend the AHA annual meeting where they will visit with Senate and congressional staff, participate in educational opportunities and meet other hospital advocates from across the country.

IHA President and CEO Chris Mitchell, Vice President of Advocacy and Legal Counsel Maureen Keehnle and Senior Director of Advocacy Erin Cubit will be in attendance. IHA will sponsor a luncheon, dinner and Hill visits during the conference.

The AHA Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 24-Tuesday, April 26 at the Marriott Marquis Washington, D.C. AHA has a hotel block reserved for conference participants. The hotel block will expire March 24.

IHA has released a tentative agenda of IHA events during the AHA annual meeting:

Sunday, April 24, 2022

- Registration.
- ACHE Educational Sessions.
- Trustee Educational Sessions.
- Executive Insight Sessions.
- AHA Leadership Celebration.

Monday, April 25, 2022 (TENTATIVE)

- Registration and attend AHA Annual Meeting. See brochure.
- Federal Forum Plenary Sessions.
- Executive Insights Session.
- AHA Recognition Luncheon.
- Receptions.
- **Complimentary dinner with IHA staff** (*location to be determined*).

Tuesday, April 26, 2022 (TENTATIVE)

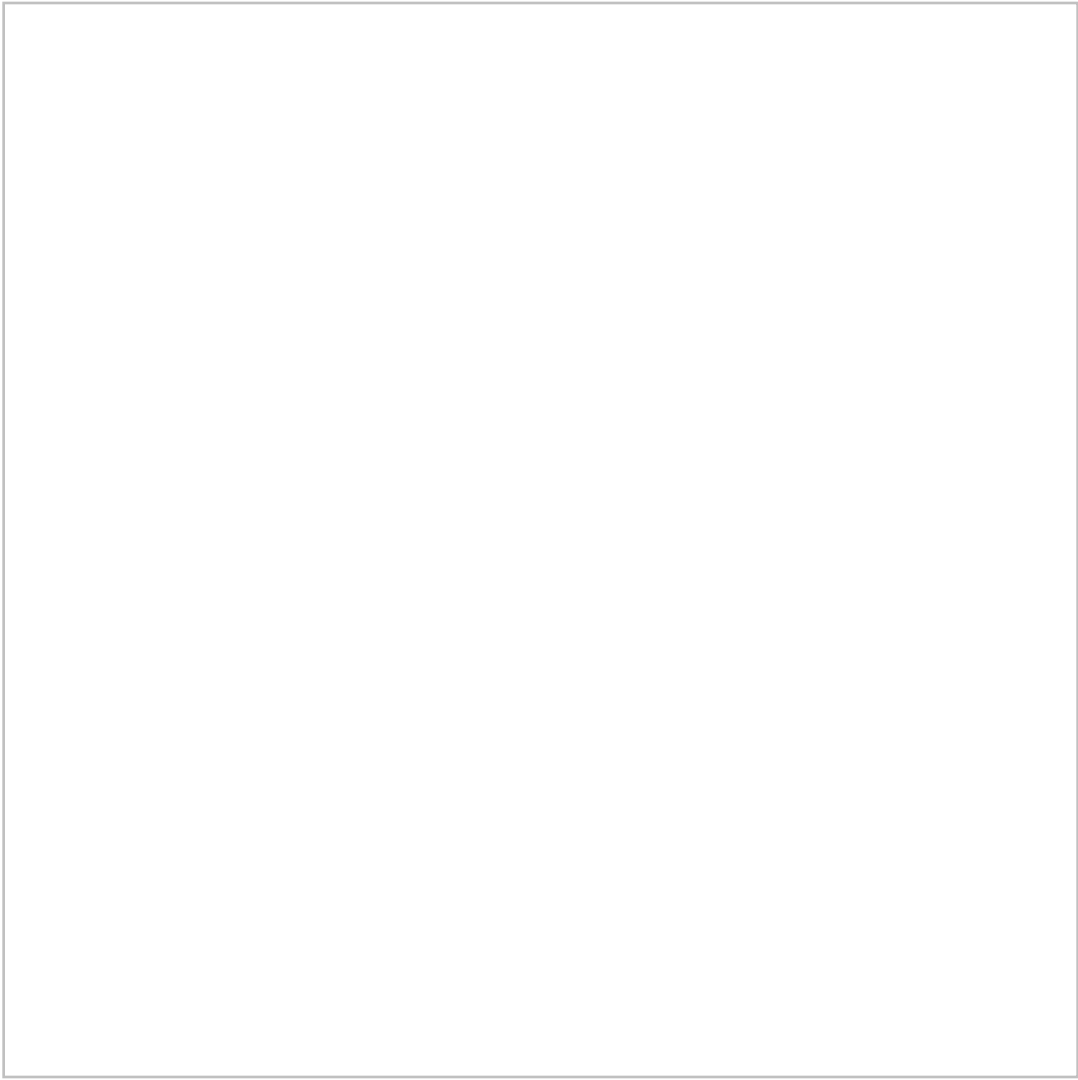
- Attend AHA annual meeting.
- 11 a.m.-noon - **Luncheon and briefing** (*IHA-sponsored*) – Agenda and location to follow closer to date.
- **Hill visits** - Meetings with senators and representatives to be scheduled throughout the day. (*Will end in a timely manner Tuesday so attendees can get to the airport.*) Dates and times to be confirmed and submitted closer to the date.

Members attending the AHA conference and IHA-sponsored activities are asked to notify IHA by March 24 of their attendance.

Click [HERE](#) to register for the AHA annual meeting.

Click [HERE](#) to notify IHA of your attendance.

Email [Pam Gridley](#) or [Maureen Keehnle](#) at IHA with questions.



IHA'S 2022 Governance Forum looks at impact of COVID-19

The 2022 IHA Governance Forum will help answer, "Where do we go from here?" as hospital trustees look to build for their organization's long-term success. Sessions will include discussions of the financial and mental impact of COVID-19 on Iowa's hospitals.

Adam Walter, vice president of Lument Company in Kansas City, Kansas, will explore funding and other strategic options for organizations to invest in their future. Gerard Clancy, M.D., professor of psychiatry and emergency medicine and senior associate dean at the University of Iowa, will discuss how hospital trustees can foster a culture of well-being and peer-to-peer support at their facilities.

Other sessions this year will include:

- Board Roles and Responsibilities 101 (optional session) – Rebecca Brommel, partner, and Alissa Smith, partner, Dorsey and Whitney, Des Moines.
- Patients Come Second – Britt Barrett, Ph.D., director of health care management, University of Texas, Dallas.
- Leading Transformational Change – Jim Austin, adjunct assistant professor of health services, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island.
- Straight from the Board Room: Governance Lessons Learned – Kim Russel, chief executive officer, Russel Advisors, Lincoln, Nebraska
- IHA Advocacy Update – Maureen Keehnle, senior vice president of advocacy,

and Chris Mitchell, President and CEO, IHA, Des Moines.

The 2022 Governance Forum is scheduled for Friday, April 22-Saturday, April 23, at IHA's Conference Center.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Click [HERE](#) to register.

Registration open for EMTALA web series

The three-part Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act web series will help hospitals better understand problematic areas of the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act and the adequacy of medical screening and on-call physician issues.

Each session will focus on different aspects of CMS regulations and interpretative guidelines:

- Wednesday, May 11 – Basic requirements of the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act including definitions and requirements.
- Tuesday, May 17 – Issues including adequacy of medical screening examinations, certification of false labor, observation, sign issues, appropriate transfers and COVID-19 waivers.
- Wednesday, May 25 – Physician involvement with the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act process including on-call physician schedules and rules and navigating difficult patient situations.

Sessions will be held from 10 a.m.-noon.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Click [HERE](#) to register.

Wade Weis named CEO at Buchanan County Health in Independence

The [Buchanan County Health](#) Board of Trustees named Wade Weis as its new CEO effective Feb. 23. Weis is the interim chief executive and chief financial officer of Geary Community Hospital in Junction City, Kansas.

Weis has more than 20 years of experience in health care, having been chief financial officer at SSM Health Monroe Clinic in Monroe, Wisconsin; Rapid City Medical Center in Rapid City, South Dakota, and Grande Ronde Hospital in La Grande, Oregon.

Click [HERE](#) to read more.



Stacy Johnson, Loring Hospital CEO/CFO, announces resignation

Stacy Johnson, chief executive and chief financial officer of [Loring Hospital](#) in Sac City, announced her resignation effective March 1.

Johnson was Loring's chief financial officer before taking on the dual role in 2019. Johnson is a member of the ServiShare board of directors and the IHA Council on Education and Membership Services.

James Roetman, CEO of [Pocahontas Community Hospital](#) and rural hospital liaison at UnityPoint Health-Trinity Fort Dodge, will be the interim CEO.



NewsStand

Iowa news

- [MercyOne's top Des Moines area leaders abruptly resign 'to pursue other opportunities'](#)
- [MercyOne oncologist sees potential in 'moonshot' cancer initiative](#)
- [COVID-19 strains EDs, prompting ambulance diversions](#)

National news

- [What makes a hospital a 'best place to work'?](#)
- [Data shows boosters offer fewer gains for those under 65](#)
- [How to navigate COVID-19 vaccine misinformation with fellow parents](#)

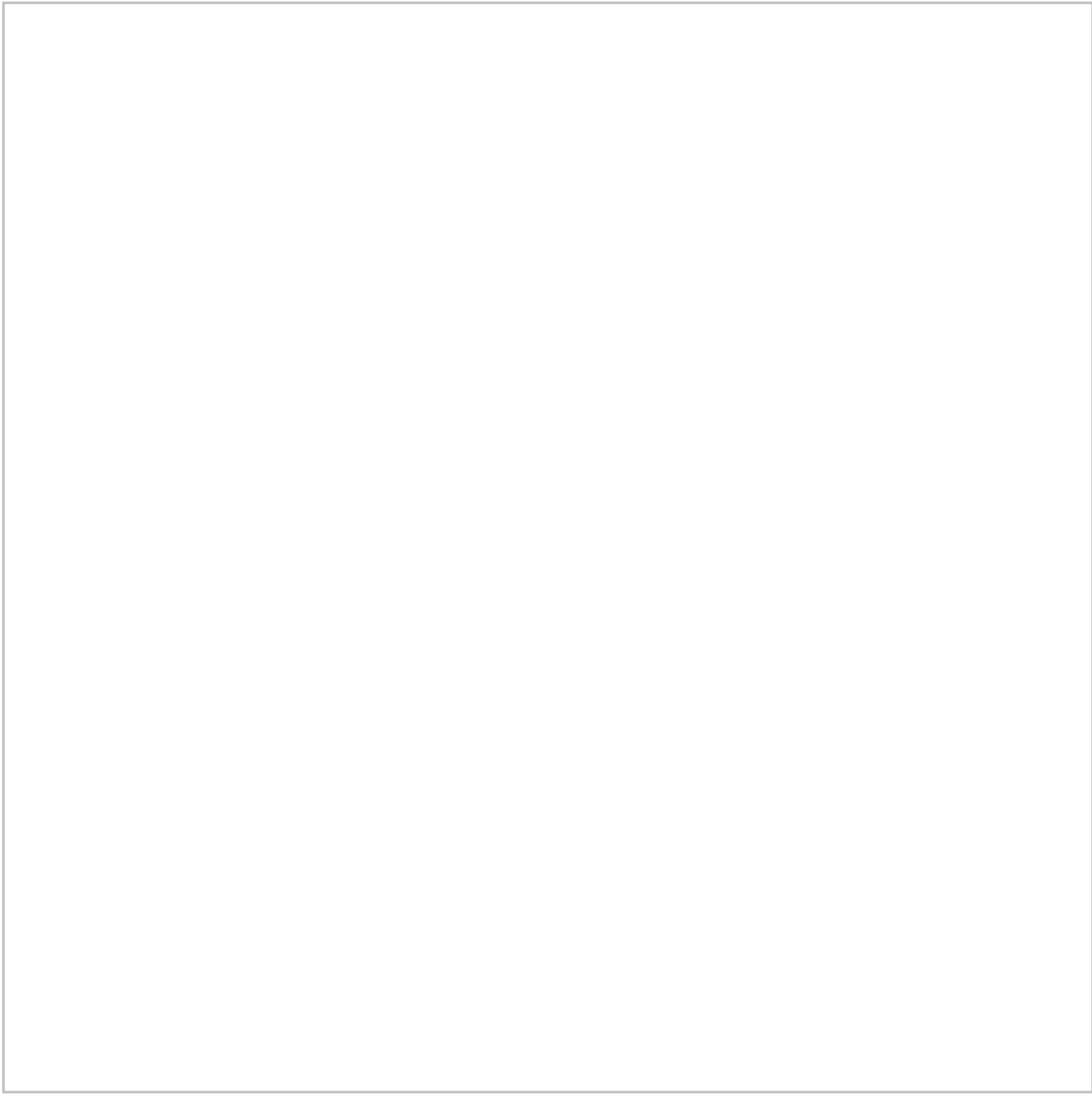
Click [HERE](#) to read daily NewsStand postings.

Upcoming events

- [Critical Access Hospitals' Commonly Cited Deficiencies](#): Tuesday, Feb. 8
- [National Health Care Safety Network Basic Training](#): Thursday, Feb. 10
- [Update on Ligature Risks and Suicide Prevention](#): Thursday, Feb. 17
- [Physician Business Leadership Certification Program](#): Tuesday, Feb. 22 - Tuesday, Aug. 9
- [Housing as Health Care: Addressing Social Determinants of Health Through Real Estate](#): Tuesday, Feb. 22
- [The Intersection of DEA, Opioids and Hospital Risk](#): Tuesday, Feb. 22
- [2022 Virtual Hospital Day on the Hill](#): Wednesday, Feb. 23
- [Advanced Leadership Academy](#): Wednesday, March 2 - Tuesday, Sept. 20
- [Iowa Rehab Managers Spring Conference](#): Thursday, March 3
- [The Art of the Interview](#): Tuesday, March 8
- [Iowa Hospital Auxilian and Volunteer Conference](#): Wednesday, March 9
- [Critical Access and Rural Hospital Forum](#): Wednesday, March 23
- [Understanding Hospital Board and Medical Staff Responsibilities Under Medicare COPs](#): Tuesday, April 12
- [Iowa Society for Healthcare Human Resources Administration Spring Conference](#): Thursday, April 14
- [IHA Governance Forum](#): Friday, April 22 - Saturday, April 23
- [Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act \(EMTALA\) Series](#): Wednesday, May 11 - Wednesday, May 25
- [Workplace Violence Program Workshop](#): Thursday, June 30 - Thursday, Aug. 18

Hospital jobs site connects hospitals with qualified candidates

Are you looking for qualified health care professionals for your Iowa hospital? [HospitalCareers.com](https://www.hospitalcareers.com) can help. This website connects thousands of nurses, providers and other hospital jobseekers with Iowa hospitals each year and is a main resource for jobseekers looking for work in health care.



100 EAST GRAND, SUITE 100, DES MOINES, IA 50309-1835 | P 515.288.1955 F 515.283.9366 |
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