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Saturday, Oct. 15, 2022

## Today's Headlines

- [REC projects state revenues will remain level despite revenue drop](#)
- [COVID-19 public health emergency extended](#)
- [IHA advocacy team weekly round up](#)
- [Pediatric COVID-19 bivalent booster approved](#)

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### REC projects state revenues will remain level despite revenue drop

The state's Revenue Estimating Conference projected the state will take in less money the next two years as [a new tax-cut package](#) takes effect. The legislature will use the information from the Revenue Estimating Conference to guide their work determining budgets.

The three-member [panel estimated state revenue will drop by 2.7%](#) in this fiscal year but will increase by 0.6% the next year, meaning state revenue available will decline from \$9.8 billion last year to \$9.5 billion then climb to about \$9.6 billion next year.

This is the second time the panel projected decreases. In March, the panel said revenue would decrease because of tapering federal COVID-19 aid and tax cuts.

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### COVID-19 public health emergency extended

The Department of Health and Human Services [renewed the COVID-19 public health emergency](#) declaration for another 90 days. HHS previously extended the public health emergency in July. HHS said it will give a 60-day notice before the termination or expiration of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Although Iowa's state-declared emergency ended Feb. 15, Iowa still must follow federal guidelines including honoring federal waivers.

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### IHA advocacy team weekly round up

The IHA advocacy team met with several state legislative and hospital leaders to discuss hospital programs and legislative priorities.

The team met with Sen. Herman Quirmback (D-Ames) and Rep. Beth Wessel-Kroeschell (D-Ames) at Mary Greeley Medical Center to tour the hospital's behavioral health unit. While there, they discussed the [Alternative Response for Community Health](#) partnership between the hospital and city government. The advocacy team also met with Rep. Brian Lohse (R-Bondurant) at Mary Greeley Medical Center to

tour the facility's data center. Rep. Lohse is the House chair for information and technology.

In addition, the advocacy team:

- Attended the Medicaid Matters Coalition meeting to discuss Medicaid rates with Iowa Department of Health and Human Services Director Kelly Garcia and Iowa Medicaid Director Elizabeth Matney.
- Discussed 2023 strategic priorities with the diversity, equity and inclusion work group for critical access hospitals.
- Met virtually with Rep. Lindsay James (D-Dubuque) and Sen. Pam Jochum (D-Dubuque) to discuss IHA's 2023 legislative priorities.
- Monitored the Administrative Rules Review Committee meeting.
- Presented psychiatric intensive care unit reimbursement rules to the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services Council on Human Services.

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## Pediatric COVID-19 bivalent booster approved

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved the Moderna COVID-19 and Pfizer-BioNTech [COVID-19 bivalent vaccines as a single booster dose for children](#) ages 5-11.

The Moderna COVID-19 bivalent vaccine is authorized for administration at least two months after completing primary or booster vaccinations for children 6 and older while the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 bivalent vaccine can be administered to children 5 and older.

With the new authorization, the monovalent Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is no longer authorized as a booster dose for children 5-11. The Moderna COVID-19 vaccine and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine continue to be authorized for primary series administration in children 6 months and older.

The Iowa Department of Health and Human Services released a [guide for changing the dose field](#) in the Immunization Registry Information System when administering the pediatric Moderna COVID-19 bivalent vaccine.

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## NewsStand

### Iowa news

- [University of Iowa pauses search for new VP, Carver College dean](#)
- [Feds object to Iowa nursing home sale over \\$1M debt](#)
- [COVID-19 hospitalizations and new reported positive tests drop in Iowa](#)

### National news

- [Walgreens aims to rapidly scale U.S. health care business next year](#)
- [Flu off to an early start as CDC warns about potentially severe season](#)
- [CommonSpirit Health confirms ransomware attack](#)

## Online education

- [Swing-bed Fundamentals](#): Tuesday, Nov. 8
- [2022 IHA Governance Webinar Series](#): Tuesday, Nov. 15
- [Patient Rights: An Overview](#): Tuesday, Nov. 29
- [Pharmacy Conditions of Participation](#): Tuesday, Dec. 6
- [CMS Updates](#): Thursday, Dec. 15

## In-person meetings

- [Performance and Process Improvement - Leadership "Yellow Belt" Workshop](#): Tuesday, Oct. 18 - Wednesday, Oct. 19
- [Charge Nurse Leadership Development Workshop](#): Monday, Oct. 24 - Tuesday, Oct. 25
- [Administrative Professionals Conference](#): Tuesday, Nov. 1
- [340B Day](#): Tuesday, Nov. 8
- [IHA Leadership Development Program](#): Wednesday, Nov. 16 - Tuesday, May 16
- [2022 CPHQ Review Course](#): Tuesday, Nov. 29 - Wednesday, Nov. 30

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The IHA Digital on Demand store offers:

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- [CEO podcasts](#).
- Previously recorded [webinars and presentations](#) including project presentations from the Advanced Leadership Academy.
- [Trustee resources](#).

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## Hospital jobs site connects hospitals with qualified candidates

Are you looking for qualified health care professionals for your Iowa hospital? [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.





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