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Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022

### Today's headlines:

- [Federal Medicaid waivers remain despite end of state public health emergency](#)
- [IHA advocacy team gives first funnel week breakdown](#)
- [Submit nominees for IHA's 2022 leadership awards](#)
- [Register for AHA annual meeting in Washington, D.C.](#)
- [IME to provide members with rapid COVID-19 tests](#)

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### **Federal Medicaid waivers remain despite end of state public health emergency**

The Iowa public health disaster emergency expired Tuesday, Feb. 15. Although the state-declared public health emergency expired, the Iowa Medicaid Enterprise will still honor the federal Medicaid waivers in the federally declared public health emergency.

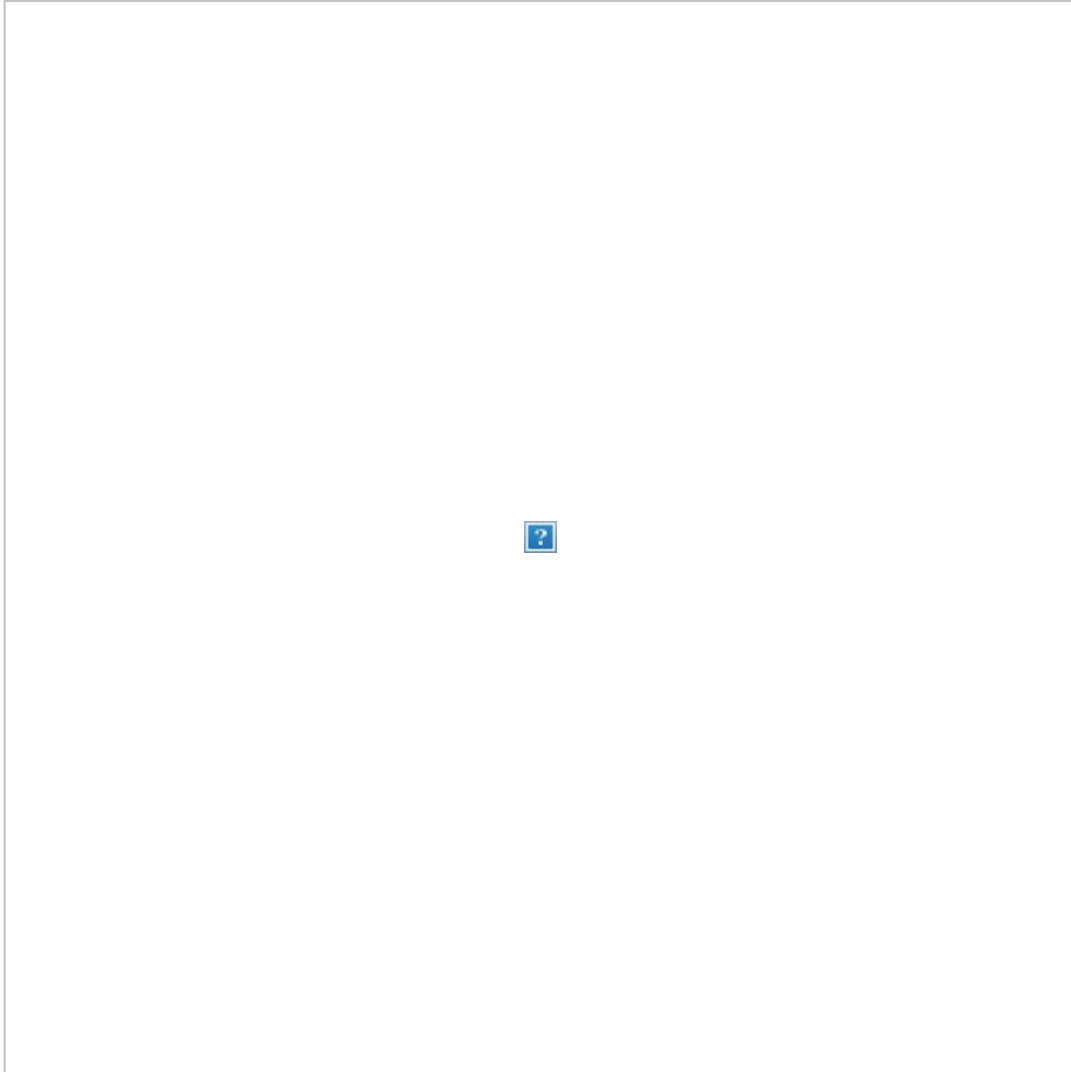
The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services will give a 60-day notice of the

official end of the federal public health emergency.

Contact the Iowa Medicaid Enterprise provider services unit with questions at 800-338-7909 or [imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us).

Click [HERE](#) to read more.

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### **IHA advocacy team gives first funnel week breakdown**

The first legislative funnel week of 2022 wrapped up last week. IHA's advocacy team tracked more than 100 bills leading up to funnel week. Several IHA-backed bills were funnel-proof, meaning they did not need to pass committee to go to a floor debate.

After the first funnel week 58 IHA-tracked bills are still alive and 59 are dead. Several of the bills that died during funnel week would have negatively affected Iowa hospitals. IHA's advocacy team will monitor bills leading up to the next funnel week scheduled Friday, March 18.

IHA's advocacy team gave an in-depth breakdown of the first funnel week, including wins and roadblocks for Iowa hospitals.

Click [HERE](#) for the vodcast.

Click [HERE](#) for the audio-only podcast.

Click [HERE](#) for a complete list of bills IHA followed and their outcomes after the first funnel week.

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### **Submit nominees for IHA's 2022 Leadership awards**

IHA presents three major awards at its annual meeting to recognize significant achievement in hospital or health system administration and governances. The three awards are:

- **Excellence in Leadership Award** – Presented to an Iowa hospital or health system CEO demonstrating notable achievement in administration of the organization and contributions in the broader areas of health care or health policy.
- **Excellence in Governance Award** – Recognizes an outstanding trustee or board member making a significant contribution to the hospital or health system through their leadership and commitment to excellence.
- **Young Executive Achievement Award** – Presented to a hospital CEO under 40 showing significant positive influence in the community hospital or health

system.

Nominations are due to IHA by Wednesday, June 1, and must be submitted online.

Click [HERE](#) for information and submission forms.

Email [Craig Borchard](#) at IHA with questions.

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### **Register for AHA annual meeting in Washington, D.C.**

AHA will hold its annual meeting in person in Washington, D.C., next month; its first in-person annual meeting since 2019.

Iowa hospital CEOs and trustees are encouraged to attend the education sessions and also take advantage of the opportunity to join in meetings with Iowa's congressional members and their staff.

IHA President and CEO Chris Mitchell, Senior Vice President of Advocacy and General Counsel Maureen Keehnle and Senior Director of Advocacy Erin Cubit will coordinate the Capitol Hill visits along with an IHA sponsored luncheon and dinner. The AHA Annual Meeting is scheduled Sunday, April 24-Tuesday, April 26, at the Marriott Marquis Washington, D.C. AHA's hotel block reserved for conference participants expires March 24.

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

#### **Sunday, April 24**

- Registration.
- ACHE educational sessions.
- Trustee educational sessions.
- Executive insight sessions.
- AHA leadership celebration.

#### **Monday, April 25 (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 (TENTATIVE)**

- Attend AHA annual meeting.
- 11 a.m.-noon – Luncheon and briefing (*IHA-sponsored*). Agenda and location to follow closer to date.
- Capitol Hill visits – Meetings with senators and representatives to be scheduled throughout the day concluding in a timely manner for travel to the airport. Congressional appointments to be confirmed closer to the date.

Members attending the AHA annual meeting 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.

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### **IME to provide members rapid COVID-19 tests**

The Iowa Medicaid Enterprise will provide members access to over-the-counter COVID-19 tests for the duration of the federal public health emergency. IME's coverage is different from over-the-counter COVID-19 test coverage under commercial plans with no reimbursement directly to Iowa Medicaid members who purchase tests. Iowa Medicaid members' COVID-19 tests must be obtained and billed through a provider. No prescription is required.

Providers and pharmacies that can bill as durable medical equipment providers on CMS-1500 medical claims can use HCPCS code T5999. No prior authorization is required for fee-for-service or in-network managed care organization providers.

Members are limited to one kit per member a day and up to four kits per member every 30 calendar days. Kits can be reimbursed up to \$25. PCR COVID-19 tests that are FDA-approved also will be covered.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

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### **NewsStand**

#### **Iowa news**

- [COVID-19 levels plummet in Des Moines area sewage](#)
- [New effort addresses a mental health crisis among Iowa's youth](#)
- [As demand increases, eastern Iowa ambulance services struggle with workforce challenges](#)

#### **National news**

- [Congress passes clinician mental health bill](#)
- [Vaccine requirements are being lifted as COVID-19 cases wane](#)
- [Four possible scenarios for the pandemic's next act](#)

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

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### **Upcoming events**

- [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

- [The No Surprise Act is Here: Compliance Obligations and Strategic Planning for Hospitals:](#) Wednesday, March 2 - Wednesday, March 9
- [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

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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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