

Click [here](#) if you are having trouble viewing this message.



Saturday, March 26, 2022

Today's headlines:

- [HRSA releases additional batch of PRF payments](#)
- [AHA DEI survey deadline extended to April 29](#)
- [OSHA reopens comment period for COVID-19 health care ETS](#)
- [Misty Dulin to leave MercyOne Primghar Medical Center](#)
- [FDA to discuss future COVID-19 boosters](#)

HRSA releases additional batch of PRF payments

The Health Resources and Services Administration released another \$413 million in provider relief fund phase four payments to providers who experienced revenue losses and expenses because of the COVID-19 pandemic from July 1, 2020, to March 31, 2021.

In Iowa, [\\$3,456,670 were distributed to 35 providers](#). HRSA began [releasing \\$17 billion](#) in phase four payments in December 2021.

AHA DEI survey deadline extended to April 29

Because of the critical need for member participation, the American Hospital Association and its Institute for Diversity and Health Equity is extending again the deadline for its biennial diversity and health equity benchmark survey. The new deadline is Friday, April 29.

The survey should be completed by organizational leaders who focus on health equity or diversity and inclusion initiatives.

AHA will use information from survey responses to understand, assess and address the issues around diversity, equity and inclusion in health care. The survey also will be a resource for hospital advocates, policymakers, academic researchers, health care leadership and stakeholders.

Fifteen Iowa hospitals have completed the survey and five have started it.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Click [HERE](#) to download a copy of the survey.

Email completed surveys or questions to surveysupport@aha.org.

To complete and submit the survey through AHA's portal, click [HERE](#). Email [Roxanne Strike](#) at IHA for login credentials and password.

OSHA reopens comment period for COVID-19 health care ETS

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration announced a comment period, ending Friday, April 22, for certain topics in its interim final rule that established an emergency temporary standard for occupational exposure to COVID-19.

OSHA is requesting feedback for:

- Additional flexibility for employers.
- Alignment with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's recommendations for healthcare infection control procedures.
- COVID-19 recordkeeping and reporting provisions.
- Employer support for employees who wish to be vaccinated.
- Limited coverage of construction activities in healthcare settings.
- Removal of scope exemptions.
- Tailoring controls to address interactions with people with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.
- The health effects and risk of COVID-19 since the ETS was issued.
- The potential evolution of SARS-CoV-2 into a second novel strain.
- Triggering requirements based on community transmission levels.

OSHA published the interim final rule creating the emergency temporary standard on June 21, 2021. IHA submitted comments in June asking OSHA to delay enforcement because some of the standard's provisions caused significant concern to hospitals. IHA's stance has not changed. Click [HERE](#) to read IHA's June comments.

An informal virtual public hearing is scheduled Wednesday, April 27. OSHA will publish hearing procedures and schedules [HERE](#).

People interested to give oral testimony must file [a written notice of intention](#) to appear before the hearing by Wednesday, April 6.

Email [Erin Cubit](#) at IHA with questions.

Misty Dulin to leave MercyOne Primghar Medical Center

Director of Critical Access Hospital Misty Dulin announced she is leaving MercyOne Primghar Medical Center Friday, April 8. Rita Going will be interim director.

Dulin began working at MercyOne Primghar Medical Center as a registered nurse in 2017, when it was called Baum Harmon Mercy Hospital. She became the interim director of nursing later that year and in April 2018 was named CEO of the hospital and its wound care clinic. Since that time her position has been retitled from CEO to director of critical access hospital.

Dulin previously worked in Spencer, Spirit Lake and Estherville as a paramedic and registered nurse in clinics, emergency rooms and other nursing departments.

FDA to discuss future COVID-19 boosters

The Food and Drug Administration is holding a virtual meeting of its Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee starting at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 6. The advisory committee will discuss considerations for future COVID-19 vaccine booster doses and the process for selecting specific strains of the SARS-VoV-2 virus for COVID-19 vaccines.

Representatives from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health also will participate. No vote is planned at the meeting and there will not be discussion of product-specific applications.

The meeting will be livestreamed [HERE](#).

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

NewsStand

Iowa news

- [Iowa reports fewest COVID-19 deaths since September](#)
- [Iowa Cancer Consortium seeks project grant proposals](#)
- [Iowa's health, human services agencies to merge](#)

National news

- [BA.2 accounts for 35% of U.S. cases; Major surge unlikely](#)
- [Black adults hospitalized at higher rates than whites during omicron](#)
- [Will baby boomers unretire?](#)

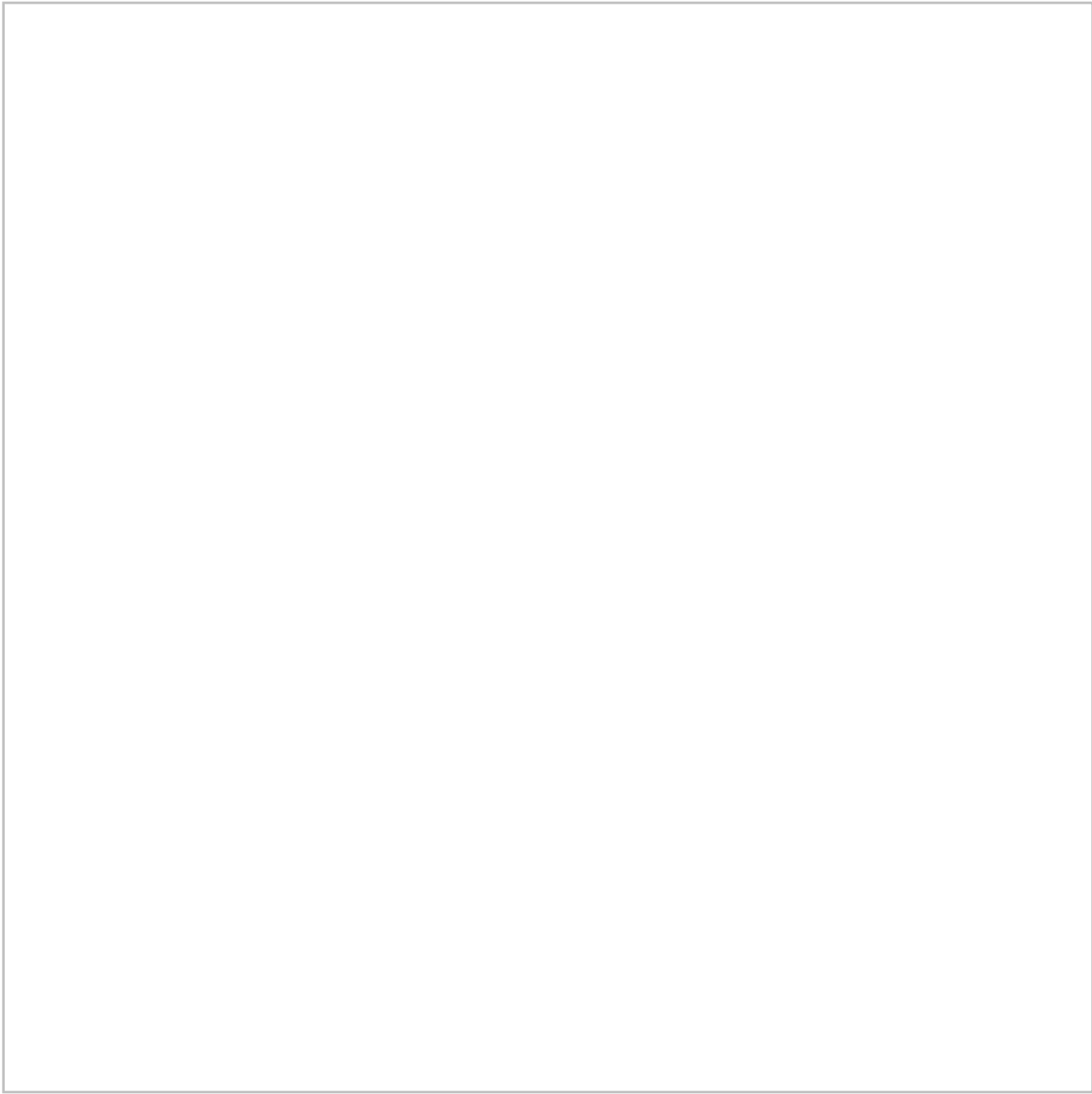
Click [HERE](#) to read daily NewsStand postings.

Upcoming events

- [Understanding Hospital Board and Medical Staff Responsibilities Under Medicare COPs:](#) Tuesday, April 12
- [Iowa Association for Healthcare Quality Spring Conference:](#) Wednesday, April 13
- [Iowa Society for Healthcare Human Resources Administration Spring Conference:](#) Thursday, April 14
- [Delegate More to Achieve More:](#) Tuesday, April 19
- [IHA Governance Forum:](#) Friday, April 22 - Saturday, April 23
- [Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Health Care:](#) Monday, May 2 - Monday, Sept. 12
- [Creating Successes: IHA's Summer Series for Health Care Leaders:](#) Tuesday, May 3 - Tuesday, Aug. 16
- [Iowa Organization for Nursing Leadership Conference:](#) Tuesday, May 10
- [Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act \(EMTALA\) Series:](#) Wednesday, May 11 - Wednesday, May 25
- [2022 IHA Governance Webinar Series:](#) Tuesday, May 17 - Tuesday, Nov. 15
- [Iowa Society of Healthcare Attorneys Conference:](#) Thursday, May 19
- [2022 IHA Employment Law Four-Part Virtual Series:](#) Tuesday, May 24 - Tuesday, Aug. 16
- [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 |
WWW.IHAONLINE.ORG

Click [here](#) to unsubscribe or to change your Subscription Preferences.