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Saturday, July 22, 2022

Today's headlines:

- [IHA advocacy team roundup](#)
- [Application period open for PCP loan repayment program](#)
- [IHA DEI Committee meeting strategic priorities](#)
- [Novavax COVID-19 vaccine approved for use](#)
- [Submit speaker proposal for AHA rural health conference](#)

IHA advocacy team roundup

The IHA advocacy team met with the Iowa Board of Medicine, Iowa Department of Public Health and the Iowa Medical Society to clarify language in the ambulatory surgical center transparency law. The law was passed in the standings bill this legislative session ([HF 2589](#)).

The law went into effect July 1. It applies to health care providers who determine a patient is a candidate for outpatient surgery and refer the patient to an ambulatory surgical center as an option for surgery. The health care provider must give the patient a written document listing the factors a patient should consider to make a fully informed decision about their course of care.

The Iowa Attorney General's office advised the Iowa Board of Medicine that providing a [list of factors for patients to consider](#) is sufficient to comply with the law. The board approved the document as compliant with the law on Friday, July 15, and recommends that referring providers give the document to patients.

[Email Jenny Klein](#) at IHA with questions.

The IHA Board and Council on Representation and Advocacy certificate-of-need work group met this week. The group:

- Reviewed the 2022 certificate-of-need legislative proposals.
- Reviewed the current certificate-of-need law and process.
- Discussed recent trends.

Application period open for PCP loan repayment program

Primary health care providers can improve health equity in Iowa's underserved communities while finding relief from student loans through the [Primary Care](#)

[Provider Loan Repayment Program.](#)

The program is administered through the Iowa Department of Public Health and seeks to improve access to primary health care among underserved populations by providing educational loan repayment assistance to primary care medical, dental and mental health practitioners. In exchange for loan repayment, providers must complete a minimum of either full-time for two years, half-time for two years or half-time for four years at an eligible practice site in a federally designated health professional shortage area. **Applications are due Wednesday, Aug. 31.**

IHA supported this program and worked with Gov. Kim Reynolds and lawmakers during the 2022 legislative session to expand it. IHA is pleased the program builds Iowa's workforce while creating a more-accessible health care system.

IHA DEI Committee meeting strategic priorities

Representatives from the Illinois Hospital Association shared their DEI efforts with IHA members participating in this week's IHA Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee meeting. The Illinois Hospital Association created a model comparison for hospitals in the state to use in their DEI efforts. They are planning outreach to neighboring states and will schedule a webinar for IHA.

During its quarterly meeting, the committee also reviewed progress on its 2022 goals with 11 of its 14 goals met or completed. The remaining three priorities in progress include:

- Creating benchmarks for each hospital's DEI journey.
- Identifying speakers and organizations as hospital resources.
- Providing implicit bias training.

Feedback from committee members is creating next steps to complete the remaining priorities. Email [Jennifer Nutt](mailto:Jennifer.Nutt@iha.org) at IHA for more information about the IHA DEI Committee.

Novavax COVID-19 vaccine approved for use

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's independent advisory committee, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, voted to recommend a two-dose [Novavax COVID-19 vaccine for people 18 and older](#). The Novavax COVID-19 vaccine is the first COVID-19 protein subunit vaccine recommended for use in the U.S. The Iowa Department of Public Health anticipated the vaccine will be available for the July 25 vaccine allocation survey.

Submit speaker proposals for AHA rural health conference

The American Hospital Association is seeking speakers for its 2023 Rural Health Care Leadership Conference scheduled Feb. 19-22. The conference brings together top practitioners and leaders to share resources to create a more integrated and sustainable rural health system.

AHA is interested in [presentations featuring rural hospital executives, clinical leaders and trustees as presenters](#). Presentation topics may include:

- Assuring quality through performance measurement and reporting.

- Best practices for achieving governance excellent.
- Collaboration with nontraditional partners to meet the needs of patients.
- Elevating health equity and eliminating disparities in treatment, access and outcomes.
- Transforming rural health through economic development.

Submit proposals by Friday, July 29. [Email Liz Summy](#) at AHA with questions.

NewsStand

Iowa news

- [Help wanted: Nursing occupations are most needed in Iowa](#)
- [ChildServe to expand Ames facility, double capacity](#)
- [Genesis hosts mock trauma drill to court health care industry hopefuls](#)

National news

- [Doctors using AI catch breast cancer more often](#)
- [One Medical acquisition reveals Amazon's health care strategy](#)
- [Nurse diversity linked to reduced risk of maternal health issues](#)

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

Online education

- [Basics of Proposed Rural Emergency Hospital Conditions of Participation and Payment](#): Tuesday, Aug. 2
- [2022 IHA Employment Law Four-Part Virtual Series](#): Tuesday, Aug. 16
- [Creating Successes: IHA's Summer Series for Health Care Leaders](#): Tuesday, Aug. 16
- [2022 IHA Governance Webinar Series](#): Tuesday, Sept. 13 - Tuesday, Nov. 15

In-person meetings

- [IHERF Swinging for Scholars Golf Outing](#): Thursday, Sept. 1
 - [Iowa Society for Healthcare Engineering Fall Conference](#): Thursday, Sept. 15 - Friday, Sept. 16
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The IHA Digital on Demand store offers:

- [Demonstration and training videos](#) for DataGen, DATABANK and Dimensions dashboards.
- [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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100 EAST GRAND, SUITE 100, DES MOINES, IA 50309-1835 | P 515.288.1955 F 515.283.9366 |
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