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IHA COVID Resources and Advocacy

June 25, 2020

The latest about COVID-19 from IHA

IHA shifting to daily email reminders for data-entry

Since April 4, when Gov. Kim Reynolds signed a mandatory order requiring hospitals to report bed tracking and personal protective equipment data through EMResource, IHA has followed up with daily emails and telephone calls to hospitals that have not entered their data by 10 am. Starting Wednesday, June 24, IHA will be no longer reach out to hospitals that have not entered data by 10 am. Instead, IHA will send daily data-entry email reminders at 9:45 am to all hospitals. Please remember: This data entry is mandatory per the governor's order. Click [here](#) to view the mandatory order. Email [Jen Nutt](#) at IHA with questions.

AHA urges HHS to extend public health emergency

The AHA yesterday urged the Health and Human Services secretary to extend the public health emergency beyond its Saturday, July 25, expiration date so "health care providers can continue to offer the most efficient and effective care possible during the continuing COVID-19 pandemic." See the [AHA letter](#) to Health and Human Services for more details.

House Democrats introduce infrastructure bill with funding for hospitals

House Democratic leaders today released legislative text for the Moving Forward Act ([H.R. 2](#)), a more than \$1.5 trillion plan to rebuild American infrastructure, including roads, bridges, transit, housing and health care.

Specifically, the bill would provide \$10 billion in total funding for fiscal years 2021 through 2025 for the construction and modernization of hospitals and medical facilities. It prioritizes awards for projects that include modernization for public health preparedness or protecting against cybersecurity threats.

Among the other health care-related provisions, the bill invests \$30 billion to upgrade hospitals to increase capacity and strengthen care; helps community health centers respond to COVID-19 and future public health emergencies; improves clinical laboratory infrastructure; supports the Indian Health Service's infrastructure; and increases capacity for community-based care.

The bill also includes two AHA-supported provisions that would restore the ability for governments, hospitals and others to advance refund tax-exempt municipal bonds, as well as revise the definition of qualified small issuers by increasing the bank-qualified borrowing limit from \$10 million limit to \$30 million.

National clearinghouse provides PPE outlet

Project N95 ([ProjectN95.org](#)) is the national COVID-19 clearinghouse for personal protective equipment (PPE) and other critical medical equipment. The rapid-response nonprofit organization's mission is to quickly get critical equipment into the hands of front-line workers.

Project N95 helps support front-line workers by:

- Coordinating with governments and other purchasers to aggregate orders and help COVID-19 response teams to source, procure and equitably distribute critical medical equipment.
- Performing due diligence on suppliers and products to accelerate procurement and sourcing decisions.
- Processing and validating inbound organization requests for PPE and critical equipment to intelligently match **vetted suppliers and products**.

Hospitals needing PPE or medical equipment can [submit this request](#) to Project N95. When submitting a request, note learning about Project N95 through the Iowa Hospital Association. Email questions to Project N95 at requests@projectn95.org.

Iowans can access free professional courses online through Coursera

Iowa Workforce Development has partnered with Coursera to offer free online learning opportunities to Iowans during the pandemic. Coursera is an online learning platform with more than 4,300 courses available from a variety of academic institutions and organizations worldwide. The online classes and certificate programs are available to Iowans at no cost if they register for and enroll in any of the courses by Sunday, Sept. 20, and complete their courses by Thursday, Dec. 31.

Iowans can register for an account and enroll in courses [here](#). Additional information can be found at www.IowaWorkforceDevelopment.gov.

CEO update call

The next CEO update call is scheduled from **1-2 pm Wednesday, July 1**. Register [here](#).

Free webinar opportunities

- 2-3 pm Tuesday, June 23, ***Cultivating Good Health Through Personal Vitality Series***. Good health in today's environment is defined as much by our resiliency and vitality as it is by our physical fitness and measurements. This webinar centers on living a vibrant life, even when dealing with anxiety, depression, pain or stress. Register [here](#).
- 10-11 am Thursday, June 25, ***COVID-19 Coding Opportunities and Challenges***. Representatives from HCCS will host this webinar to discuss COVID-19-related coding changes. Register [here](#).
- 9-10 am Tuesday, June 30, ***COVID-19 Provider Relief Fund Developments and Strategies: Legal and Accounting Perspectives***. This presentation will provide an overview of the relief fund and each of the payment distributions, include the latest developments from Health and Human Services and describe best practices and strategies for obtaining and keeping relief funds, including legal, compliance, tax and audit concerns. Register [here](#).
- Noon-1 pm Tuesday, June 30, ***COVID-19: Preparing for the New Norm***. This webinar outlines organizational processes, staffing, telehealth, patient safety and other areas likely to be transformed by COVID-19 and ways hospitals can get in front of these developments. Strategies and tactics reviewed are based on consultations the presenters have provided to health care organizations that are working through these challenges. Register [here](#).
- 11-noon Tuesday, July 14, ***Embracing the COVID-19 Disruption: Leadership Perspectives on the Future of Acute Care***. Presented by Becker's Healthcare, this webinar will:
 - Discuss the importance of strategic leadership to combat the challenges facing hospitals and health systems nationwide.
 - Share insights on what health care will look like going forward, and how hospitals can prepare now by driving change within their organizations.
 - Showcase examples of innovation and collaboration stemming from the pandemic.
 - Understand how physicians can lead health systems to chart the course for updated care delivery policies and procedures.

Register [here](#).



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