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Tuesday, June 29, 2021

Today's headlines:

- [Providers encouraged to apply for provider relief fund extensions](#)
- [IHA submits comments on inpatient payment rule](#)
- [Sen. Grassley holds in-person town meetings](#)
- [ACI Boland Architects joins Iowa Hospital Association as associate member](#)

Providers encouraged to apply for provider relief fund extensions

An article in the June 23 edition of the IHA [COVID-19 Update](#) detailed the IHA's efforts urging members of Congress to extend the deadline for health care providers' use of provider relief funds. This week, Sen. Chuck Grassley's staff has been informed the Health Resources and Services Administration Customer Service Payment Line indicated there appears to be a provision allowing for a three-month extension to the deadline if a provider asks.

Providers can call the administration's Customer Service Payment Line at 866-569-3522, from 7 am-10 pm Monday-Friday with requests for a three-month extension as well as other questions or concerns. Questions about the provider relief funds can be emailed to [Susan Horras](#) or [Erin Cubit](#) at IHA.

14th Annual IHERF Swinging for Scholars

IHA submits comments on inpatient payment rule

IHA has submitted written comments to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services about the fiscal year 2022 [Inpatient Prospective Payment System](#) proposed rule. This year's proposed rule included provisions on Medicare Severity Diagnosis Related Group data collection and weight collection, graduate medical education, organ acquisition payment and the Hospital Quality Reporting and Value Program. Comments for the proposed rule were due June 28 and a final rule is expected later this summer. The rule is scheduled to take effect Oct. 1, 2021.

Sen. Grassley holds in-person town meetings

This week, Sen. Chuck Grassley will hold town meetings in Algona, Ida Grove and Lake City as

part of his 99 county tour. Now that COVID-19 vaccines are available to the public, these events will be held in-person. Below is the information for each of the meetings.

Kossuth County Town Meeting

Tuesday, June 29 from 2-3 pm
Kossuth County Elections Center
108 South Hall Street, Algona

Ida County Town Meeting

Wednesday, June 30 from 2:30-3:30 pm
Rec Center Gymnasium
311 Barnes Street, Ida Grove

Calhoun County Town Meeting

Thursday, July 1 from 9:45-10:45 am
Lake City Library
110 East Washington Street, Lake City

ACI Boland Architects joins Iowa Hospital Association as associate member

The Iowa Hospital Association welcomes ACI Boland Architects as its newest associate member.

ACI Boland Architects is an architectural design and engineering firm focused on how architecture affects the human experience. With more than 45 years of experience, ACI Boland Architects' designs consider the spaces, flows and adjacencies of health care facilities to improve staff experience while helping patients heal through their environment.

The firm recently completed several community hospital projects in Iowa, including replacement hospitals at Clarinda and Manning, and remodel projects at Greater Regional Hospital in Creston and Clark County Hospital in Osceola.

For more information about ACI Boland Architects, click [HERE](#).

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NewsStand

Iowa news

- [Why we recommend COVID-19 vaccines; Iowa infectious disease physicians](#)
- [Nebraska hospital to close this week, part of MercyOne system](#)
- [Stead Family Children's Hospital expands neonatal medical transport](#)

National news

- [Nearly all US COVID-19 deaths are among unvaccinated](#)
- [Pfizer and Moderna vaccines could offer protection for years](#)
- [Mix-and-match COVID-19 vaccine approach boosts immune response](#)

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

Upcoming events

- [COVID-19 Screening and Precaution Requirements in Health Care](#): Wednesday, July 7.
- [The Emotional Impact of Covid-19: Leading Your Team to an Emotionally Healthy Workplace](#): Thursday, July 15.
- [CPHQ Virtual Conference](#): Wednesday, July 21.
- [PAMA Lab Test Private Payer Rate Reporting](#): Thursday, July 22.
- [A Path Forward: Thriving in Rural Health Care After COVID-19](#): Thursday, Aug. 19.
- [Swinging for Scholars and All-District Meeting](#): Thursday, Sept. 2.
- [Iowa Quality Residency Program](#): Thursday, Oct. 21, 2021-Friday, April 8, 2022.

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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