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Thursday, Aug. 19, 2021

Today's headlines:

- [REH issues, board nominees and DEI pledge discussed by IHA board](#)
- [Some hospitals report frustrations with mandatory reporter training](#)
- [Guardian Insurance voluntary plans offer college tuition reimbursement](#)
- [Register for careLearning system webinar](#)

REH issues, board nominees and DEI pledge discussed by IHA board

The potential conversion of hospitals to rural emergency hospitals (REH) was among the topics discussed at the IHA board meeting, Wednesday, Aug. 11, during a retreat of the IHA, ServiShare and IHERF boards. IHA continues to work with its member workgroup and AHA on regulatory strategy and response to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' requests for information about REH implementation. Also discussed at the meeting was a [study](#) released in July by the North Carolina Rural Health Research Program that estimates possible hospital conversions to REH nationwide.

The board unanimously approved the IHA Governance Committee recommendations for IHA's 2021/2022 board nominees and leadership positions. Among other board matters was the approval of a diversity, equity and inclusion pledge submitted by the IHA Committee on Diversity, Health Equity and Inclusion. IHA member hospitals will be encouraged to adopt and approve [the pledge](#). A formal launch is planned in conjunction with the DEI sessions at the IHA Annual Meeting.

AHA Region 6 Executive Elizabeth Summy provided an AHA board update followed by state and federal legislative updates. Reports also were received from the ServiShare and IHERF boards. Two new IHA associate members, [Claim Capital](#) and [Fire Door Solutions](#), were approved.

The next meeting of the IHA Board is Monday, Oct. 4, during the IHA Annual Meeting.

14th Annual IHERF Swinging for Scholars

Some hospitals report frustrations with mandatory reporter training

IHA has been made aware that some hospitals have experienced significant frustrations with the Mandatory Reporter Training system, some reporting that the two-hour training is taking as long as four- to five-hours to complete. IHA has been in communication with the Iowa Department of

Human Services, which hosts the online training, and Iowa State University, which maintains the training system, to resolve the issues. Please report any additional barriers to completing this training or questions to [Jennifer Nutt](#) or [Erin Cubit](#) at IHA.

Guardian Insurance voluntary plans offer college tuition reimbursement

Hospital employees participating in the Guardian Insurance Voluntary Employee Benefit program sponsored by ServiShare are eligible to participate in the College Tuition Reimbursement plan.

Employees enrolled in a Guardian plan can earn \$2,000 per plan in annual Tuition Rewards. Participating schools have entered into a contractual agreement to reduce their tuition by the amount of Tuition Rewards submitted by the member. Tuition Rewards are a guaranteed minimum discount off the full "list price" of tuition as opposed to monetary reimbursement. One Tuition Reward point is the same as \$1 reduction in full tuition.

Members can register students who are part of their immediate or extended family, including children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, stepchildren and godchildren. Eligible students must be enrolled in the program no later than Tuesday, Aug. 24, of their junior year of high school. Rewards stop accruing on Aug. 24 of the eligible student's senior year of high school. Tuition Rewards cannot be used by an employee for their own or a partner's education, or if a child has already started 12th grade.

Tuition Rewards are capped at a maximum 25% discount, divided evenly over four years. Rewards may be combined with financial aid.

To sign up for a Guardian plan or for more information about the College Tuition Benefit, click [HERE](#).

For a list of participating colleges, click [HERE](#).

Please email ServiceTeam@supinspro.com with an questions.



Register for careLearning system webinar

IHA offers *careLearning*, a web-based online educational tool, to member hospitals. A live product information webinar about the *careLearning* system is scheduled from **1-2 pm Tuesday, Sept. 21**.

Anyone with a vested interest in providing education and mandatory training to hospital employees is encouraged to register. This includes staff educators, human resource officers, nursing executives or managers, and compliance officers.

careLearning is a cost-effective educational tool that helps ensure employees have access to regulatory training and other health care-related courses. Webinar participants will gain practical knowledge about the *careLearning* system and how it can help organize and manage education.

Contact Tony Wegmann at twegmann@carelearning.com or call 304-353-9754 to register. For more information about the webinar, click [HERE](#).

NewsStand

Iowa news

- [Polk County offers COVID-19 booster to residents with immune system issues](#)
- [United Way hosting panel on COVID-19](#)
- [Some Iowans could see up to 21% premium hike under Wellmark proposal](#)

National news

- [Mississippi gets second field hospital in days](#)
- [30% of US hospitals mandate vaccination for employment](#)
- [US to offer boosters to all Americans in late September](#)

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

Upcoming events

- [A Path Forward: Thriving in Rural Health Care After COVID-19](#): Aug. 19.
- [Supplemental Disinfection: Technologies, Supporting Science and Field Experiences](#): Aug. 26
- [IHA Employment Law Four-Part Virtual Series](#): Aug. 31
- [COVID-19 Provider Relief Fund: Reporting Requirements and Strategies](#): Aug. 24.
- [Swinging for Scholars and All-District Meeting](#): Sept. 2.
- [Iowa Society for Healthcare Engineering Virtual Fall Conference](#): Sept. 16-17.
- [Emergency Preparedness Regulatory Webinar](#): Sept. 23.
- [Iowa Quality Residency Program](#): Oct. 21, 2021-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.



Your resource for Iowa hospital and health system jobs.

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