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Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021

Today's headlines:

- [IHA advocacy team weekly roundup](#)
- [IDPH updates COVID-19 vaccine information brief](#)
- [Nominations open for IHA's 2022 Advanced Leadership Academy](#)
- [CMS offers webinar about PAMA clinical laboratory data reporting](#)

IHA advocacy team weekly roundup

This week, the IHA advocacy team met with Senate President Jake Chapman (R-Adel), Senate Majority Leader Jack Whitver (R-Ankeny), House Majority Leader Matt Windschitl (R-Missouri Valley) and House Minority Leader Jennifer Konfrst (D-Windsor Heights) to introduce Chris Mitchell, IHA's new president and CEO, to Senate and House leadership and to give an in-depth overview of [IHA's 2022 legislative priorities](#). The conversations centered on:

- Hospital workforce priorities including ideas to recruit and retain health care workers, such as tax incentives and grants for students as they are in school, as well as tort reform.
- Hospital financial priorities including telehealth payment parity for physical health services, increasing the cost adjustment factor for critical access hospitals, instituting a Medicaid rate for administrative days or days awaiting placement, and easing complexities within the Medicaid program.
- Adding licensure for rural emergency hospitals in the Iowa Code.

IHA's advocacy team also virtually attended the Health Insurance Mandate Review Committee Wednesday. The passage of [HF 838](#) created this committee that was tasked with discussing mandates, the number of Iowans covered by each type of insurance and the method for determining, collecting and submitting the fiscal impact of each mandate. There are no providers on the committee, but the committee discussed including a health care provider before the next meeting Wednesday, Dec. 8.

IHA's advocacy team is exploring how IHA can best be a resource for this committee moving forward as they work to bring recommendations to the Iowa Legislature before the 2022 session.

Federal vaccine requirement

Thursday, IHA's advocacy team released information through a special edition of IHA Today about CMS' emergency rule-making requiring entities that participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs to develop and implement policies for staff COVID-19 vaccinations. Facilities covered by this regulation, including Iowa

hospitals, must have a policy in place that ensures eligible staff have received the first of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine or a one-dose COVID-19 vaccine by Sunday, Dec. 5, 2021, and have their second dose of a two-dose vaccine by Tuesday, Jan. 4, 2022. OSHA also released a new emergency temporary standard to protect workers from COVID-19. The standard applies to employers with 100 or more employees, but facilities that participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs are expected to abide by the requirements established by CMS because that rule takes priority over other federal vaccination requirements.

IHA is analyzing both sets of guidance as well as the state legislation signed into law last week to assess the impact on Iowa hospitals and will provide additional information in the coming days.

Click [HERE](#) to access the CMS press release.

Click [HERE](#) to access the CMS Frequently Asked Questions.

Click [HERE](#) to access the OSHA emergency temporary standard.

IDPH updates COVID-19 vaccine information brief

IDPH has released an [updated COVID-19 vaccine information brief](#). The document also is posted to the HAN *3 COVID-19 vaccine folder. Call the Immunization Program with questions at 800-831-6293, ext.1.

Nominations open for IHA's 2022 Advanced Leadership Academy

The nomination process for the 2022 class of the Advanced Leadership Academy is now open. Click [HERE](#) to nominate a leader in your organization to build your bench strength and to show your support for their growth as a hospital leader. This year's academy curriculum includes:

- Lessons about leadership.
- Health care finance.
- Data for decision-making.
- Advocacy leadership.
- Conflict management.
- Medical staff and board relations.

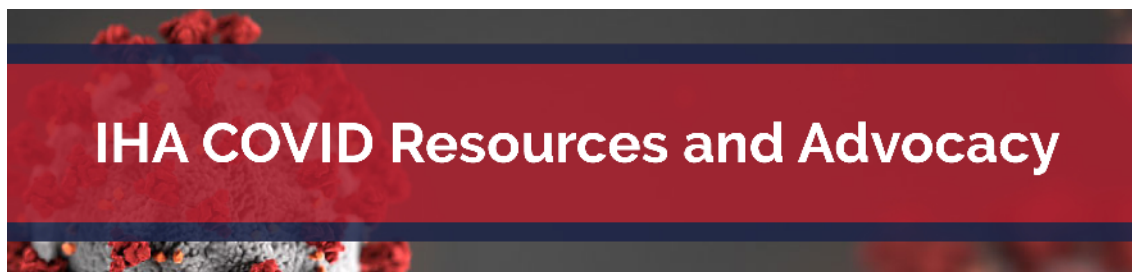
Sessions focus on core health care leadership competencies with presentations by subject matter experts, informal discussions with guest CEOs and facility tours. Academy participants have mentors and facilitate process-improvement projects for their organizations. They present these projects at the end of the program. Academy members attend the IHA Governance and Summer Leadership forums, receive hands-on communications training with the public relations firm Wixted and Co. and are recognized for completing the program at the IHA Annual Meeting.

Program dates are:

- March 2
- May 17 and 18
- July 13
- Aug. 17
- Sept. 20 (livestream of process-improvement projects)

Nominations are due Feb. 18, 2022.

Details for all sessions will be available soon. Email questions to [Corey Martin](#) at IHA.



CMS offers webinar about PAMA clinical laboratory data reporting

CMS is hosting a webinar about the Medicare Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule Private Payor Data Collection and Reporting ([private payor data collection and reporting policies](#)) from **2:30-3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 10.**

The PAMA requirement to report private payor data soon will apply to many hospitals with outreach laboratories, which will be required to report their private payor laboratory prices and volumes. Specifically, hospitals that received at least \$12,500 in Medicare revenues from Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule services billed on the CMS 1450 14X bill type from Jan. 1 through June 30, 2019, will be required to report on this data between January and March 2022.

Click [HERE](#) to register for this webinar.

NewsStand

Iowa news

- [Less than 24 hours after CDC approval, kids line up in Coralville for COVID-19 vaccine](#)
- [Polk County officials work to open sobering center](#)
- [Here's how the federal COVID-19 vaccine mandate affects Iowans](#)

National news

- [Pfizer says COVID-19 pill cut hospital, death risk by 90%](#)
- [Tentative deal reached to end Mercy Hospital \(Buffalo\) strike](#)
- [Nurses union urges OSHA to institute permanent COVID-19 protections for health care workers](#)

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

Upcoming events

- [2021 Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals Physical Environment Update](#) Nov. 9.
 - [Governance Webinar Series](#): Tuesday, Nov. 16
 - [IHA Leadership Development Program](#): Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2021 - Wednesday, April 6, 2022
 - [Can't Pour From an Empty Cup: The Crisis in Nursing and Pandemic Care](#): Tuesday, Nov. 30
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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.



Your resource for Iowa hospital and health system jobs.

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