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Saturday, Dec. 4, 2021

Today's headlines:

- [Medicare sequester moratorium not included in Congressional continuing resolution](#)
- [IHA advocacy team weekly roundup](#)
- [Remember to submit questions for Dec. 15 vaccine mandate webinar](#)
- [CMS to hold call about provider requirements under No Surprises Act](#)
- [Registration open for 2022 Advanced Leadership Academy](#)
- [Register for CMS Survey Readiness webinar](#)
- [IDPH updates COVID-19 vaccine information brief](#)

Medicare sequester moratorium not included in Congressional continuing resolution

The House and the Senate passed a continuing resolution Thursday night that would bridge the federal funding gap until the Appropriations Committee has time to pass a full omnibus. The continuing resolution did not include the Medicare sequester moratorium and did not prevent the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go-Act (PAYGO) of 2010 from taking effect.

A 2% cut to Medicare providers will begin Jan. 1, 2022, because of the moratorium exclusion. PAYGO also will go into effect Jan. 1, 2022. This could trigger an additional 4% cut to Medicare.

Some legislators are looking at ways to stop the Medicare pay cuts from taking effect including stand-alone bills.

IHA will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates.

IHA advocacy team weekly roundup

This week, the IHA advocacy team discussed its [2022 legislative priorities](#) with the Iowa Department of Human Services. Key topics discussed were:

- [Fiscal priorities](#), particularly Medicaid funding.
- Workforce initiatives.

Additional meetings this week included:

• An informational discussion with the staff of Rep. Ashley Hinson (IA-01) about

- An informational discussion with the staff of Rep. Ashley Hinson (IA-01) about issues affecting Iowa's rural hospitals.
- A meeting with PassportUSA's government relations team to learn more about workforce initiatives and federal visa programs.
- Hosted the Iowa Organization of Nursing Leadership board meeting. Members discussed the 100 Great Nurses award, ideas for the 2022 Iowa Organization of Nursing Leadership Spring Conference, IHA's Pledge to Champion Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and a 10-year strategic plan.

Remember to submit questions for Dec. 15 vaccine mandate webinar

Members are encouraged to submit questions to IHA ahead of the Navigating the Legal Uncertainty of COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates in the Health Care Workplace webinar scheduled virtually from 2-3 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15.

Attorney and Drake University professor Denise Hill will answer submitted questions and discuss health care employers' abilities to enforce the recent federal vaccine mandates considering the recent conflicting judicial decisions and state laws.

Members can submit questions to [Joah Hogan](#) with IHA.

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

CMS to hold call about provider requirements under No Surprises Act

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight will host a special open-door forum scheduled from 1-3 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8. CMS will give an orientation about provider requirements under the [No Surprises Act](#).

Starting Jan. 1, 2022, the No Surprises Act will give consumers protection when receiving emergency care from out-of-network providers at in-network facilities and air ambulance services from out-of-network providers.

Participation instructions

- Participant dial-in number: 888-455-1397
- Conference ID number: 8604468
- TTY Communications Relay Services are available. Dial 711 or 800-855-2880.

A transcript and an audio recording for download will be posted to CMS' [podcast and transcript website](#).



Registration open for 2022 Advanced Leadership Academy

Registration is open for the 2022 IHA Advanced Leadership Academy, set to begin

march 2022. Hospital and health system leaders are encouraged to submit nominees now. The academy is designed to prepare emerging and seasoned health care leaders to take on senior leadership positions and responsibilities in their organizations.

The academy sessions are hosted at various health care organizations in the Des Moines metro. Coursework also includes completing a facility-based process improvement project with guidance from a mentor.

The cohort will meet on these 2022 dates:

- Wednesday, March 2.
- Tuesday, May 17 to Wednesday, May 18.
- Wednesday, July 13.
- Wednesday, Aug. 17.
- Tuesday, Sept. 20.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Click [HERE](#) to register.

Email [Corey Martin](#) at IHA with questions.

Register for CMS Survey Readiness webinar

Registration is open for IHA's first 2022 webinar, CMS Survey Readiness, scheduled from 10 a.m.–noon Tuesday, Jan. 11.

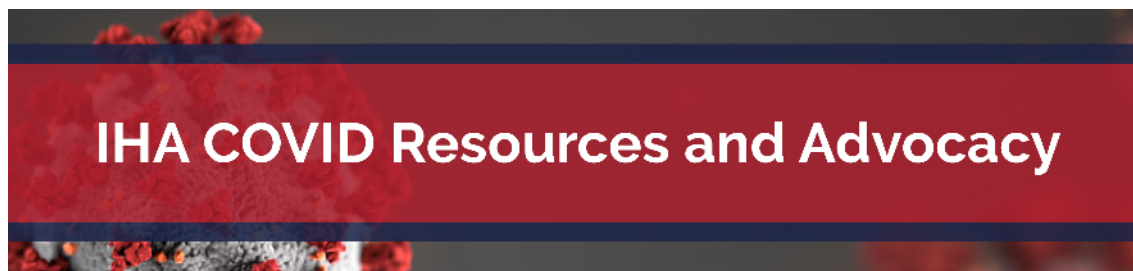
The webinar will help hospitals prepare top to bottom for a survey from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the state survey agency, The Joint Commission or Det Norske Veritas.

Participants will discuss:

- Examples of how to keep current on regulation changes.
- How to prepare front-line staff for surveyor questions.
- Methods to be their own watchdogs.
- What to do when a hospital is notified surveyors are at the door.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Click [HERE](#) to register.



IDPH updates COVID-19 vaccine information brief

The Iowa Department of Public Health 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.

NewsStand

Iowa news

- [State explains about-face on new University of Iowa hospital](#)
- [Sioux Center Health honors hospice care](#)
- [SMC to offer pediatric COVID-19 vaccine clinic](#)

National news

- [What's behind the 'dire' COVID-19 surge in Michigan?](#)
- [Hospital completes first phase of \\$71M renovation](#)
- [Nurses at Longmont hospital call for change](#)

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

Upcoming events

- [Post-pandemic Priorities for Rural Health Systems](#): Tuesday, Dec. 14
 - [Navigating the Legal Uncertainty of COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates in the Health Care Workplace](#): Wednesday, Dec. 15
 - [CMS Survey Readiness](#): Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2022
 - [Nurse Manager Leadership Workshop](#): Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2022 - Tuesday, March 15, 2022
 - [Abuse, Restraints and Seclusion Regulations](#): Thursday, Jan. 27, 2022
 - [Update on Ligation Risks and Suicide Prevention](#): Thursday, Feb. 17, 2022
 - [Advanced Leadership Academy](#): Wednesday, March 2, 2022 - Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2022
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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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100 EAST GRAND, SUITE 100, DES MOINES, IA 50309-1835 | P 515.288.1955 F 515.283.9366 |
WWW.IHAONLINE.ORG