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Saturday, Aug. 13, 2022

Today's headlines:

- [Reimbursement rates, board nominees highlight IHA board retreat](#)
- [IHA advocacy team weekly roundup](#)
- [HRSA announces funding opportunity for rural hospitals](#)
- [Provider escalation guide available through DHS](#)

Reimbursement, board nominees highlight IHA board retreat

The Insurance Market Place and reimbursement to hospitals were main topics of discussion during the IHA board meeting, Wednesday, Aug. 10, held in conjunction with the joint planning session of the IHA, ServiShare and IHERF boards. IHA President and CEO Chris Mitchell reviewed the makeup of IHA's Medicaid financial work group developed to work with IHA's Medicaid consultant. At its June meeting, the IHA Board unanimously approved contracting with Health Management Associates to help develop strategies and identify possible options for increasing Medicaid reimbursements.

The board unanimously approved Doug Cropper, president and CEO of Genesis Healty System, and Matt Wenzel, president and CEO of Greath River Health, to fill board vacancies along with the IHA Governance Committee recommendations for IHA's 2022/2023 board nominees and leadership positions. The slate of officers and trustees will be voted on by the membership at the IHA House of Delegates meeting Oct. 4.

AHA Region 6 Executive Elizabeth Summy provided an American Hospital Association board update followed by state and federal legislative updates. Reports also were received from the ServiShare and IHERF boards. Four new IHA associate members were approved.

The next meeting of the IHA Board of Officers and Trustees is scheduled Monday, Oct. 3, a day before the IHA Annual Meeting.

IHA advocacy team weekly roundup

IHA's advocacy team and hospital leaders are completing discussions regarding IHA's 2023 legislative priorities. IHA created four work groups this summer to discuss:

- Certificate of need.
- Maternal health.

- Pharmacy issues.
- Workforce.

The pharmacy issues work group held its final session Tuesday. The certificate-of-need, maternal health and workforce groups are continuing to meet.

All groups will present their goals to the IHA Council on Representation and Advocacy at its Sept. 21 meeting. If approved, the priorities will be integrated into IHA's advocacy agenda and be presented to the IHA Board of Officers and Trustees in October during the IHA Annual Meeting.

HRSA announces funding opportunity for rural hospitals

Rural hospitals can apply for one of 46 grants through the [Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program](#). The Health Resources and Services Administration anticipates nearly \$21 million will be available for a five-year project period from June 1, 2023, to May 31, 2028.

The program's purpose is to help small hospitals with 49 beds or less implement quality and operational improvement efforts that align with value-based care. Improvement projects can include:

- Bundling payments.
- Joining a Medicare shared savings program or accountable care organizations.
- Promoting interoperability.
- Purchasing hardware and software.
- Training staff.

Applications are due Tuesday, Nov. 8.

Provider escalation guide available through DHS

At a recent Medicaid provider town hall meeting, the [Iowa Department of Human Services released a provider escalation guide](#). The resource identifies pathways for providers to escalate issues and concerns about:

- Claim payment issues.
- Contracting.
- Credentialing.
- Provider enrollment.

Providers are encouraged to attend [Medicaid provider town hall meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month](#). Providers also can view previous meeting recordings.

NewsStand

Iowa news

- [COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations steady in Iowa as state fair begins](#)
- [Weitz executive prioritizes mental health as chair of Heart Challenge](#)
- [Polk County begins monkeypox vaccinations](#)

National news

- [Hospitals' uncomfortably high tolerance for errors](#)
- [Diabetes screening rules miss disease in many people of color](#)
- [As Biden signs CHIPS Act, CIOs debate whether it will help hospitals](#)

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

Online education

- [2022 IHA Employment Law Four-Part Virtual Series](#): Tuesday, Aug. 16
- [Creating Successes: IHA's Summer Series for Health Care Leaders](#): Tuesday, Aug. 16
- [Review of the Rural Emergency Hospital Program](#): Monday, Aug. 22
- [Infection Prevention and Antibiotic Stewardship](#): Tuesday, Sept. 13
- [2022 IHA Governance Webinar Series](#): Tuesday, Sept. 13 - Tuesday, Nov. 15
- [Swing-bed Fundamentals](#): Tuesday, Nov. 8
- [Patient Rights: An Overview](#): Tuesday, Nov. 29
- [Pharmacy Conditions of Participation](#): Tuesday, Dec. 6
- [CMS Updates](#): Thursday, Dec. 15

In-person meetings

- [IHERF Swinging for Scholars Golf Outing](#): Thursday, Sept. 1
 - [Iowa Society for Healthcare Engineering Fall Conference](#): Thursday, Sept. 15 - Friday, Sept. 16
 - [IHA Annual Meeting](#): Monday, Oct. 3 - Wednesday, Oct. 5
 - [Performance and Process Improvement - Leadership "Yellow Belt" Workshop](#): Tuesday, Oct. 18 - Wednesday, Oct. 19
 - [2022 CPHQ Review Course](#): Tuesday, Nov. 29 - Wednesday, Nov. 30
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Members are encouraged to visit IHA's Digital on Demand store to catch up on webinars or informational videos they may have missed.

The IHA Digital on Demand store offers:

- [Demonstration and training videos](#) for DataGen, DATABANK and Dimensions dashboards.
- [CEO podcasts](#).
- Previously recorded [webinars and presentations](#) including project presentations from the Advanced Leadership Academy.
- [Trustee resources](#).

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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](https://www.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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