

2025 Policy Priorities

We reimagine health care in Iowa for life-changing outcomes.

Financial Strength & Access to Care

Advocate for policies and programs that strengthen the financial position of Iowa's hospitals and enhance Iowans' access to care.

- Retain the Certificate of Need program to protect lowans' access to lower cost, high quality care.
- Maintain authorization and use of hospital provider participation funds to finance Medicaid hospital quality programs and improve access to care for Medicaid managed care beneficiaries.
- Collaborate with the state to identify and implement new models of care delivery and reimbursement to improve access to maternal and behavioral health services.
- Oppose decreases in hospital reimbursements, including implementation of site-neutral payment policies.
- Identify and pursue solutions to reduce delays in post-acute care transitions.
- Oppose actions by pharmaceutical companies to impede distribution of 340B-acquired drugs through contract pharmacies and rebate schemes.
- Strengthen fair payment for pharmacy and pharmacist services.
- Support repeal of the federal 96-hour rule.
- Ensure that essential health care services are available in all communities by protecting and increasing federal investments in Medicare, Medicaid, and the Health Insurance Marketplace.
- Make permanent Medicare coverage for certain telehealth services and the CMS hospitalat-home program.
- Support refinements to the Rural Emergency Hospital model to ensure access to and payment for essential health care services.
- Pursue policies that enhance defenses against malpractice claims.

Healthcare Workforce

Support policies and programs that strengthen, grow, and protect Iowa's healthcare workforce.

- Support policies that strengthen and expand health care professional education, training, retention, loan repayment, and health careers registered apprenticeship programs.
- Pursue policies to improve health care workforce safety and reduce violence against health care professionals and individuals who work, learn and volunteer in hospitals.
- Oppose the imposition of arbitrary hospital and nursing home staffing mandates.

 Address physician shortages in part by reforming the Conrad 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Program to reallocate unused slots to states that consistently utilize theirs and increasing the number of residency slots eligible for Medicare funding.

Payer Accountability

Pursue strategies to hold payers accountable for compliance with regulatory requirements and reduce provider administrative burden.

- Support policies that reduce red tape and improve patient access to timely care.
- Support increased accountability in payer payment policies.
- Support policies that promote increased transparency and accountability in prescription drug pricing, cost, and reimbursement.

Technology, Data & Security

Evaluate and advocate on policies and proposals impacting hospitals' data reporting requirements and use of digital health technologies to innovate, provide high quality care, and protect patient privacy.

- Oppose efforts to mandate hospitals' financial participation in state data exchange programs.
- Monitor state and federal legislative and regulatory activity around artificial intelligence, transparency, information blocking, cyber security, and other emerging health information technologies and issues.

Approved by the Iowa Hospital Association Board of Officers and Trustees on December 11, 2024.