



Top Stories

FCC To Hold Listening Sessions in Wisconsin

A team from the Federal Communications Commission will meet with community leaders and the public in rural Wisconsin and Minnesota next week. The sessions will cover a broad swath of telecommunications issues—from broadband, to telehealth, to robocalls. The general public is invited to attend discussions in Winona, La Crescent, and La Crosse on Wednesday, June 26; Tomah on Thursday, June 27, and DeForest and Portage on Friday June 28.



Photo by Blickpixel on Unsplash

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Lunches for All

Three Wisconsin school districts, Gundersen Health System, and a UW Health program were recognized for their high-quality summer meal programs that are "appetizing, appealing, and wholesome" as part of the USDA's "**Turnip the Beet**" awards.

In other food news, a bipartisan group of state lawmakers is looking to **ban practices that single out or shame students** who have negative food account balances.



Photo by FOODISM on Unsplash

[Read more](#)

No Surprises!

Some states across the nation have taken steps to curb surprise billing, as compared and contrasted in this chart. President Donald Trump has **repeatedly** called for an end to the practice. Now US Senators say they mostly agree that surprise medical billing is a problem. Industry observers are taking seriously a variety of proposals to quell the practice that are being considered by the Senate's Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee.



[Read more](#)

More News

- Smaller cities grew faster than large metropolises between 2017 and 2018, according to a **new analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data**.
- We hope you said hello at the Rural Wisconsin Health Conference in the Wisconsin Dells last week. But if not, you can catch up on the **state of rural health in Wisconsin** in a presentation from the Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative.
- A bill **standardizing 5G wireless technology** across the state now heads to Gov. Evers' desk.
- A guide explains how **shared decision-making** could lead to better health care.
- A **new study** examines to what extent cost is a barrier to accessing care for rural Medicare patients.

Grants For...

- Addressing **disparities in maternal health on a state level**. Deadline: July 15.

- Student loan repayment to primary care and behavioral health **clinicians providing substance use disorder treatment** at approved sites. July 18.
- Addressing the **gamut of rural community challenges**, from improving access to locally-produced food to developing outdoor recreation. Deadline: July 22.
- Projects that **improve access to oral health care**. Deadline: July 31.
- Actionable research that advances health equity in the areas of **nutritional disparities, nutrition, and food security**. Deadline: October 2.

Events

- June 24-26: The **Annual Emergency Care and Trauma Symposium** will educate prehospital and hospital emergency and trauma providers.
- June 26-28: The Federal Communications Commission will hear feedback from rural Wisconsin and Minnesota leaders about **telecommunications issues** (see News, above).
- June 27: A CMS **virtual listening session** will hear feedback on draft guidance for hospital co-location.
- June 28: A **webinar** will explore psychiatric advance directives.
- August 23: Attend the **Rural Hospital Finance Workshop** from our office (see below).
- October 4: Save the date for an **Obesity Management Summit**.



Rural Hospital Finance Workshop

Friday, August 23rd

Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative
880 Independence Lane
Sauk City

In collaboration with...



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Registration Fee: \$20 Register online at:
<https://charge.wisc.edu/ruralhealth/workshops.aspx>

Save the Date!

Join us to learn more about critical issues pertaining to your rural hospital, including:

- An update on Medicare and Medicaid 340B Updates*
- Co-Location Guidance*
- Measuring CAH Productivity*
- Upcoming Changes in CAH Regulations*
- Telehealth: Compliance, Strategy, Billing, Reimbursement*



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