
Director of Information Technology –

Palo Alto County – Director of Information Technology

Palo Alto County is seeking a full-time **Director of Information Technology** to lead the County's technology strategy, cybersecurity posture, and daily IT operations. The Director will oversee all infrastructure, systems, applications, and technology services that support County departments and public-facing operations. As stated in the original posting, *"The position requires the director to be on call 24/7/365."*

Key Responsibilities (Modernized)

Strategic Leadership & Planning

- Develop and execute a long-term technology roadmap aligned with County goals
- Lead modernization initiatives including cloud adoption, cybersecurity enhancements, and digital service improvements
- Advise County leadership on emerging technologies, risks, and opportunities

Cybersecurity & Compliance

- Implement and maintain a comprehensive cybersecurity program
- Oversee endpoint protection, threat monitoring, vulnerability management, and incident response
- Ensure compliance with state and federal regulations (CJIS, HIPAA where applicable)
- Conduct regular security training for County staff

Infrastructure & Systems Management

- Manage on-premises and cloud-based infrastructure, including virtualization platforms, Windows Server environments, and Active Directory
- Oversee network architecture (LAN/WAN), firewalls, VPNs, and wireless systems
- Maintain high availability and disaster recovery systems
- Administer Microsoft SQL environments and support database-driven applications

Application & Service Support

- Support in-house and third-party applications used across County departments
- Oversee VoIP phone systems and unified communications
- Manage GIS systems and integrations (preferred experience)

- Coordinate vendor relationships and service contracts

Operational Management

- Lead the IT department's daily operations, including help desk support and project management
 - Develop and maintain IT policies, procedures, and documentation
 - Manage IT budgets, procurement, and asset lifecycle
 - Ensure reliable, responsive service delivery to all County offices
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Preferred Qualifications

- Prefer an associate's degree or higher in **Information Technology, Networking, Computer Science**, or a related field
 - Minimum **3-5 years of relevant IT experience**, with leadership experience preferred
 - Strong background in virtualization, Windows operating systems, Windows Server, firewalls, Microsoft SQL, and VoIP systems
 - Experience with GIS platforms is preferred
 - Ability to work independently, demonstrate sound judgment, and maintain reliability in critical situations
 - Must reside within **30 minutes of Emmetsburg, IA**, consistent with the original requirement that the applicant *"must be willing to reside within a 30-minute response time to Emmetsburg, IA."*
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Compensation & Benefits

Salary is based on qualifications, background, and experience. Palo Alto County offers a **competitive salary and comprehensive benefits package**.

How to Apply

A complete job description and application form are available at the **Palo Alto County Auditor's Office**, 1010 Broadway, Emmetsburg, IA 50536.

Submit your **application form, resume, and cover letter** to:

Palo Alto County Courthouse
Attn: Carmen Moser, Auditor

P.O. Box 95, 1010 Broadway
Emmetsburg, IA 50536

Applications will be accepted **until the position is filled.**

Palo Alto County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
