

Hawkeyes make Des Moines open practice official

By Brendan Stiles

HawkeyeDrive.com

The Iowa Hawkeyes will conduct an open practice April 14 at Valley Stadium in West Des Moines. Details for the event were finalized by the UI on Thursday, eight days after Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz confirmed a report from *KCCI-TV's* Andy Garman [about the Hawkeyes contemplating an open practice near the state capital](#).

The practice, which was originally slated for April 20, was moved up six days and will start at 1:30 p.m. Central that afternoon. According to a release sent out by the UI on Thursday, Valley Stadium's West and Southeast Gates will open at noon and a ticket (which is free of charge) will be required to enter.

"This is an opportunity for us to reach out to our Central and Western Iowa Hawkeye fans that support us so loyally during the fall in Kinnick Stadium," Ferentz said in a statement. "The staff of the West Des Moines Community School District has been great to work with in putting all the details together. We appreciate the cooperation we have received in the planning and organization and look forward to the event."

Tickets will be made available starting April 6 at 14 different Hy-Vee locations across the central and western portions of the state. The UI's release also mentions no parking being made available directly at Valley Stadium that afternoon and that tailgating outside the stadium is prohibited.

Iowa will also conduct its annual open practice – the

Hawkeyes' final spring practice – at Kinnick Stadium on April 27.