

Fall 2025 NACO District Meetings

<u>Southeast</u> - Thursday, September 11th - Peter Kiewit Lodge, Eugene T. Mahoney State Park, 28500 W Park Hwy, Ashland. Registration Deadline: 9/4/2025

Northeast - Friday, September 12th - Lifelong Learning Center, Northeast Community College - 601 E Benjamin Ave, Norfolk. Registration Deadline: 8/29/25

<u>Central</u> - Thursday, September 18th - The Leadership Center, 2211 Q St, Aurora. Registration Deadline: 9/11/2025

<u>Panhandle</u> - Wednesday, September 24th - Prairie Winds Community Center, 428 N Main St, Bridgeport. Registration Deadline: 9/17/2025

<u>West Central</u> - Thursday, September 25th - NACO West, 102 Diamond Springs Trail, Ogallala. Registration Deadline: 9/17/25

General Agenda for District Meetings

Full agendas to come.

8:00-9:00 AM - Registration 9:00-10:15 AM - Business Meeting 10:15 AM - 12:00 PM - Affiliate Breakout Sessions 12:00 - 1:00 PM - Lunch

District Meeting Registration

Save the Dates - 2025 Annual Conference

ANNUAL CONFERENCE IMPORTANT DATES Aug. 18 Sponsor & Exhibit Hall Registration Opens - 8 AM CST Sept. 10 County Official Registration Opens - 8 AM CST Hotel Reservation Form Available - 2:30 PM CST Oct. 10 Hotel Reservation Form Deadline Nov. 21 County Official Pre-Registration Deadline - 11:59 PM CST Registration Cancellation Refunds No Longer Available Dec. 17 Conference Begins

Click Here for Hotel Reservation Information

Legislative Interim Studies Scheduled

The Legislature's standing committees have begun scheduling public hearings in September and October on interim study resolutions. Some resolutions are a deeper dive into bills that were introduced during the last session and others are ideas for bills that will be introduced in 2026.

Among the studies on issues affecting counties, on September 5, the Natural Resources Committee will hear <u>LR159</u>, an interim study to examine the nameplate capacity tax rate and how it affects privately developed renewable energy in Nebraska.

Controlled burn permits will be examined on September 12 under <u>LR235</u>.

On September 19, the committee will hear $\underline{\mathsf{LR225}}$ that would examine the need for a Green Amendment that was proposed as $\underline{\mathsf{LR22CA}}$ during the 2025 session. LR22CA, if passed by the

Legislature and adopted by voters, would require the state and political subdivisions to serve as trustees for the state's natural resources.

Hearings are scheduled in October on the Open Meetings Act (<u>LR192</u>), unfunded mandates (<u>LR195</u>), county initiatives and referendums (<u>LR253</u>), and riparian weed control funding (<u>LR168</u>). A full list of hearing dates and locations can be found <u>here</u>.

Some hearings are limited to invited testimony but public comments are accepted through the online comment button for each resolution.

Register for the 2025 NACO Legislative Conference



Mark your calendar for the 2025 NACO Legislative Conference!

If you have a suggestion for a legislative change that impacts your county, please reach out to Beth Ferrell or your NACO <u>Board of Directors representative</u> prior to the Legislative Conference.

Register here. A full agenda will be available soon.

Register for the Legislative Conference

Live Healthy Prescription, Health, and Dental Discount Program

The National Association of Counties (NACo) Live Healthy prescription discount applies to everyday prescription costs. By following a few simple steps to sign your county up, counties can support community health and provide real savings to our residents. The program helps county residents save on prescription medications, with **no cost** to the county. This easy-to-implement program is designed for residents who are uninsured, underinsured, or simply looking to reduce costs.

NACO is working to increase county participation in the <u>Live Healthy Program</u> by ordering the necessary materials and aiding in distribution efforts. Keep an eye out for further information about next steps.



Build healthier counties with NACo



delivers health savings to county residents at NO COST to the county.

Live Healthy has saved residents **more than \$720 million** on their prescriptions.



Enroll online at NACorx.org



Appoint staff to lead the program



Order NO-COST print and digital materials



Display materials for residents to save



Enroll into Live Healthy now

*The Live Healthy program is not insurance. Prescription savings may vary by drug and pharmacy; discounts are only available at participating pharmacies. MinuteClinic discounts are available in 33 states and the District of Columbia

Savi: Important Updates on the SAVE Plan

student loans. That means borrowers behind on payments could face wage garnishment, tax refund withholding, and more.

If you're unsure about your loan status—or know you're behind—you're not alone. Over 9 million borrowers are in default or serious delinquency.

Our partner Savi can help you check your status, avoid or recover from default, and take action fast. Join <u>our next webinar</u> to learn more, or <u>get started with an account today</u>.



Policy Updates: The SAVE Plan

- The SAVE Plan is still on hold due to a federally issued court injunction
- Borrowers already enrolled in SAVE were automatically placed into a General Forbearance, and will remain there until the litigation is resolved.
- Under this forbearance:
 - You do NOT have to make your monthly payments on your student loans \
 - Interest IS accruing [July 9 ED announcement: Interest WILL start to accrue August 1]
 - Time spent does NOT provide credit toward Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)
- Currently only two ways borrowers in SAVE can receive PSLF credit:
 - Enroll/switch into a different IDR plan (PAYE, ICR or IBR) to resume making qualifying monthly payments for PSLF.

"Buy back" months of PSLF credit for time spent in SAVE forbearance by submitting a "PSLF Buyback Request" via ED (*must have 120 months of certified PSLF employment to be eligible*)

Policy Updates: Other IDR Plans (Non-SAVE)

- Other IDR plans (PAYE, ICR & IBR) are currently available for eligible borrowers to enroll
- But borrowers should expect lengthy delays when enrolling, recertifying, or switching IDR plans right now due to massive application backlog
 - Dept of Ed only just recently began processing IDR applications again in May, after having been paused since the start of 2025.
 - Only 3.84% of all IDR applications submitted in 2025 have been processed, with millions of applications still backlogged.
- If you've submitted an IDR application recently, be prepared to wait a longer than normal to receive your results.
 - Your servicer may place you into a 60-day "processing forbearance" to allow time to process your application- and during which no payment is due.

Get guidance from Savi experts at www.nacobenefits.bysavi.com

ICS 402 for Elected and Appointed Officials is the perfect opportunity to give our busy elected and appointed officials some valuable training and orientation to the principles of Incident Command and EOC operations, particularly their roles when something bad happens in their jurisdiction.

Date: Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Time: 0830-1230

Location: Grand Island - Hall Co EOC, 1210 N. North Road, Grand Island, NE 68803

Cost: Free

In this workshop, we examine what roles and responsibilities Elected and Appointed Officials play in a disaster and discuss how decisions and actions directly influence the outcome of disaster response. The purpose of the ICS 402 course is to familiarize Senior Elected and Appointed Officials on their roles in supporting emergency incident management. Upon completion, officials will be able to explain the National Incident Management System and the role of the four command and coordination entities like ICS, the EOC, MAC Groups, and the Joint Information System.

To register, email jonr@grand-island.com.



G402 Incident Command for Senior Elected & Appointed Leaders

Grand Island—Hall County Emergency Management 1210 N. North Road Grand Island, NE 68803

September 9, 2025 8:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

Who should attend: Senior elected or appointed officials, organizational directors, hospital administrators, school superintendents and other agency administrators with responsibilities for their organizations in a disaster.

- There is no fee to attend this course.
- Class is limited to 30 students Registration
- No Lodging is provided during this course.
- Directions to access the EOC will be provided following registration.

Overview: What roles and responsibilities do Elected and Appointed Officials play in a disaster? How will your actions directly influence the outcome of disaster response?

The purpose of this course is to familiarize Senior Elected and Appointed Officials on their roles in supporting emergency incident management. Upon completion, officials will be able to explain the National Incident Management System and the role of the four command and coordination entities like ICS, the EOC, MAC Groups, and the Joint Information System.

REGISTER NOW

Space is limited to 30 students, applications will be accepted in the order they are received.

Register by email: jonr@grand-island.com

COURSE CONTACT:

Jon Rosenlund 308-385-5362 jonr@grand-island.com Support provided by our generous business members helps NACO continue to expand our educational programming for Nebraska county officials. Business members enjoy a number of benefits, including features on our website and social media pages. We also offer our business members a complimentary exhibit booth at the County Board Workshop, discounts on sponsorships, and 15% off the cost of booking our NACO West Training Center in Ogallala.

Click the button below to learn more about NACO business memberships.

NACO Business Memberships

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Legislative Newsletter

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