

January 19, 2024



The Ninety-Three

District Meeting Registration

Southeast - Thursday, March 14th - Southeast Community College Career Academy, Lincoln

Northeast - Friday, March 15th - Northeast Community College Lifelong Learning Center, Norfolk

Central - Thursday, March 21st - Holthus Convention Center, York

Panhandle - Wednesday, March 27th - Prairie Winds Community Center, Bridgeport

West Central - Thursday, March 28th - Quality Inn & Conference Center - Ogallala

General Agenda for District Meetings

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

Registration for Southeast, Northeast, Panhandle Now Open

Central and West Central Opening Soon

Full Agendas in February

[Registration](#)

County Board Chair Workshop Registration

This workshop is for County Board Chairs and Vice Chairs.

Friday, February 16, 2024 | 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Younes Conference Center South, 16 W Talmadge Rd , Kearney, NE 68845

Deadline to pre-register: 2/5/24

Registration fee: \$0

[Register Here](#)

[View the Agenda Here](#)



The construction of the steel framework is making progress.



NACO West Update



Congratulations NACo Leadership Academy September Graduates

National Association of Counties Leadership Development: Learn from the best!

We would like to acknowledge and congratulate the September NACo Leadership Academy graduates from Nebraska. They join over 10,000 graduates and current participants from across the country benefitting from the 12-week online program enabling existing and emerging county leaders to achieve their highest potential.

Amy Lett, Buyer, Douglas County
Carissa Ureste, 911 Dispatch Supervisor, Dawson County
Cary Weberg, Nurse Manager RN, Douglas County
Christina Bandini, 911 Dispatcher Shift Supervisor, Dawson County
Courtney Lyons, Deputy County Clerk, Lancaster County
Daliborka Lazicic, Housekeeping Manager, Douglas County
Donna Stewart, Mental Health Services Manager, Douglas County
Edna Medina, Sergeant, Dawson County
Keri Geiser, 911 Dispatcher, Dawson County
Tiwanda Patterson, Lead Eligibility Specialist, Douglas County
Vanessa Olmos, Administrative Supervisor, Dawson County

Developed by General Colin Powell, the Professional Development Academy, and NACo, the High Performance Leadership Academy is an online 12-week program that helps your workforce develop fundamental, practical leadership skills to deliver results for counties and residents.

Learn more here: <https://www.naco.org/page/high-performance-leadership-academy>

Nebraska Voters Can Now Submit Early Voting Applications

Nebraskans who would like to vote early for the May 14, 2024, statewide primary can now submit [early voting applications](#) to their county election office.

Voters can either download the early voting applications from the Nebraska Secretary of State's website [here](#), or they can request an application from their county election office. Voters can find their county election office's contact information [here](#).

The Secretary of State's office reminds voters to follow the new voter ID requirements that take effect for the statewide primary.

"There are important changes to how Nebraskans will vote in the statewide primary," Nebraska Secretary Bob Evnen said. "Every Nebraska voter should be thinking about how voter ID will impact their voting plan, whether that will be presenting an ID in the early voting process or showing up to the polls with an acceptable form of ID."

County election offices will begin mailing out early voting ballots on April 8. Early voting in-person at county election offices, which requires an ID but no application, begins April 15.

Important: Here is how voter ID will affect Nebraskans who vote early by mail.

When the voter fills out their [early voting application](#), they will need to do **one** of the following:

- The voter can write their driver's license or state ID number on the application
- **OR** The voter can attach a photocopy of their acceptable form of ID to the application.
 - The photocopy **must** be returned with the application, whether the voter returns the documents in person, by mail, by email, or by fax.
- **OR** If the voter does not have an ID and cannot get an ID because of a disability, illness or religious objection, the voter can attach their completed reasonable impediment certification to the application.

Once the early voter returns their application with their ID information, the voter ID requirement is fulfilled. The voter will not need to present their ID again for this primary election. The voter should make sure to **sign** and return the early voting application to their county election office.

Counties that only vote by mail

Voters in by-mail precincts and by-mail counties automatically receive their ballots; No request is required. Voters in the following counties will present their photo ID information to their [ballot return envelope](#):

- Boone, Cedar, Cherry, Clay, Dawes, Dixon, Garden, Knox, Merrick, Morrill, Stanton.

These voters will either write their driver's license or state ID number under the flap of their return envelope, enclose a copy of their photo ID in the return envelope or insert their reasonable impediment certification in the return envelope. They will not need to present their photo ID again for this primary election.

Acceptable forms of photo ID

The photo ID must have the voter's name and photo.

- Nebraska driver's license
- Nebraska state ID (from the DMV)
- United States Passport
- Military ID
- Tribal ID
- Hospital, assisted-living facility or nursing home record
- Nebraska political subdivision ID (state, county, city, school, etc.)
- Nebraska college or university ID (public or private)

Free state ID for voting purposes

Nebraskans can get a [free state ID](#) for voting purposes from the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). If the person was born in Nebraska and needs [a free certified](#)

[copy of their Nebraska birth certificate](#) to get a free state ID, they can contact the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). A birth certificate is not a valid form of voter ID.

Learn more about Voter ID online

A brochure about voter ID is available in English and Spanish at voterID.nebraska.gov, along with more preliminary voter ID education material.

USDOT announces Bridge Investment Program

On December 20, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) announced \$9.7 billion in funding for the [Bridge Investment Program \(BIP\)](#) through Fiscal Year (FY) 2026. The BIP is a competitive grant program focused on rehabilitating existing bridges to reduce the number of bridges in poor condition and bridges in fair condition at risk of falling into poor condition.

Are counties eligible?

Yes. The BIP has expanded eligibility so that local government entities, including counties, are eligible to apply directly to USDOT. Counties can apply for the regular bridge and planning funding [here](#), and the large bridge funding [here](#).

What can counties use the Bridge Investment Program funding for?

There are three project categories within the BIP: large bridge, regular bridge, and planning.

Large Bridge

Projects that cost more than \$100 million

Maximum award amount is 50% of total costs

Minimum award amount is \$50 million

2022 recipients listed [here](#)

Regular Bridge

Projects that cost less than \$100 million

Maximum award amount is 80% of total project costs

90% if the bridge is an off-system bridge

Minimum award amount is \$2.5 million

2022 recipients listed [here](#)

Planning

\$20 million is set aside for planning projects

Maximum award is 80% of total project costs

2022 recipients listed [here](#)

When is the application due?

The application deadlines for FY2023-FY2026 are listed below.

Large Bridge

FY2025: August 1, 2024

FY2026: August 1, 2025

Regular Bridge

FY2023/FY2024: March 19, 2024

FY2025: November 1, 2024

FY2026: November 1, 2025

Planning

FY2023/FY2024: February 19, 2024

FY2025: October 1, 2024

FY2026: October 1, 2025

Additional Resources

A fact sheet about the BIP can be found [here](#). Answers to frequently asked questions can be found [here](#). For information about other funding opportunities through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL/P.L. 117-58), see [NACo's funding matrix for counties](#).

Source: National Association of Counties (NACo)

<https://www.naco.org/news/usdot-announces-bridge-investment-program>

FEMA Seeks Volunteers for Virtual BRIC National Review Panels

FEMA is seeking volunteers from state, local, tribal and territorial governments and other federal agencies to participate on the [Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities \(BRIC\)](#) virtual national review panels.

The agency is accepting [Expression of Interest](#) forms from **Jan. 8, 2024–Feb. 15, 2024**. These volunteers will leverage their mitigation experience and expertise to determine how subapplications meet [BRIC qualitative evaluation criteria](#).

The virtual panels will run April 8 – May 3, 2024 on Zoom. Panelists will serve 30 hours on one weekly panel from 10 a.m.–5 p.m. ET plus a three-hour training.

FEMA anticipates that participants on the panels will commit eight hours a day over the course of five business days. All reviews will be conducted virtually and there is no compensation for participating on the panels.

The agency anticipates participation in these panels will strengthen the BRIC review process by ensuring it is transparent, equitable and inclusive. It will also offer insight into new and creative ways communities are addressing different hazards, an expanded network of individuals and a fresh look at ways to contribute to community disaster resilience.

For more information, visit the BRIC [webpage](#) on [FEMA.gov](#).

Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program

LINCOLN, NE – The Nebraska Department of Health and Human (DHHS) services is inviting licensed childcare programs across the state that are open and operating to consider two new grant opportunities worth up to \$15 million.

The Restoration and Enhancement Program (REP) and Technology Access Program (TAP) are need based funding programs being administered by DHHS's Office of Economic Assistance (OEA) and funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

DHHS will be offering 5 (five) informational webinars with live demonstrations to guide child care providers through the application process of each grant. Three webinars will be conducted in English and 2 (two) will be facilitated in Spanish.

Restoration and Enhancement Program

Through the Restoration and Enhancement Program grant opportunity, DHHS seeks to assist licensed child care providers with improving facilities, investing in new equipment, and enhancing the quality of childcare homes and centers throughout the state of Nebraska. Awards will support programs by providing funding for allowable indoor and outdoor equipment, facility and maintenance repairs, installation of required fire alarm systems, and upgrading child care supplies and equipment.

Technology Access Program

Through the Technology Access Program, DHHS seeks to promote adequate and updated technology to enhance the child care quality and capacity throughout the state. This funding will facilitate the ease of service delivery, encourage higher personal security and protection of Nebraska's children, and further the educational programs of child care providers.

Applications for both programs will be accepted beginning at **8:00 a.m. CST on Monday, December 18, 2023 through 11:59 p.m. CST February 9, 2024**. Awards to qualifying REP applicants will be made following the close of the application period.

Awards to qualifying TAP applicants will be made on a rolling basis until funds are fully disbursed, which may occur prior to February 9, 2024.

Licensed child care providers who wish to apply for the Restoration and Enhancement Program and/or Technology Access Program must submit a completed application describing how requested grant funds would be used. The application will be available at www.dhhs.ne.gov/CCDF during the application period.

To learn more about these funding opportunities, please visit www.dhhs.ne.gov/CCDF for more details and to register for one of the informational Webinars.

Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program

USDOT announced the FY24 RAISE Grant application which makes \$1.5B available to state, local and tribal governments for projects "for planning or constructing surface transportation infrastructure projects that will improve safety; environmental sustainability; quality of life; mobility and community connectivity; economic competitiveness and opportunity including tourism; state of good repair; partnership and collaboration; and innovation".

The deadline is February 28, 2024.

The NOFO is [here](#) and additional information about RAISE is [here](#).

BRIC Direct Technical Assistance

The Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities non-financial Direct Technical Assistance (BRIC DTA) request form submission deadline is approaching on **February 29, 2024, 2 p.m. Central Time**.

FEMA established the BRIC DTA initiative to provide non-financial technical support to tribal nations and underserved communities that are disproportionately impacted by natural hazard disasters and have fewer resources to address resilience needs. BRIC DTA services can include broad planning and capacity-building support, community engagement and communications, and partnership building, as well as hands-on technical assistance in mitigation alternatives development, project design (including engineering and cost estimation), application assistance, financing strategies, grants writing and grants management.

To apply, communities and tribal nations should send a request through the online submission [BRIC DTA Request Form](#) and email it to fema-bric-dta-submission@fema.dhs.gov. There is no requirement for a previous BRIC grant sub-application or award, or an approved hazard mitigation plan, to be considered for participation. To learn more about the BRIC DTA program and the application, please

make sure to review the webpage [BRIC Direct Technical Assistance | FEMA.gov](#) and the Program Support Material [Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Direct Technical Assistance](#).

If you have any questions, please direct them to: fema-r7-bric-dta-outreach@fema.dhs.gov

RESOURCES

[Legislative Newsletter](#)

[County Employment Opportunities](#)

[Legal Calendar](#)

[2024 Election Calendar](#)



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt Out](#) using TrueRemove™
Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.
View this email [online](#).

1335 H Street None | Lincoln, NE 68508 US

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.