

March 28, 2025



The Ninety-Three

Upcoming NACO Events - Register Now!

Click on the event to register.

NACO Budget Workshop #1

May 8, 2025

Holthus Convention Center - York
Register by May 1, 2025.



NACO Budget Workshop #2

May 15, 2025

NACO West- Ogallala
Register by May 8, 2025.



Board of Equalization Workshop

June 4, 2025

Younes North - Kearney

County Board Workshop

June 4-5, 2025

Younes North - Kearney

County Clerk, Register of Deeds, & Election Commissioner Workshop

June 4-6, 2025

Younes South - Kearney

Spring District Meetings Wrap Up

Thank you to all of our hardworking county officials who came to the NACO spring district meetings! We're excited to see you all again at the fall meetings [in September](#).



Help Us Celebrate National County Government Month in April!

April is right around the corner, which means it's almost time to celebrate National County Government Month! Help us champion the county workforce by highlighting the essential work that our 93 counties do to make Nebraska a great place to live and work.

Help us celebrate by sharing photos from County Government Day or photos of your courthouse. [Follow us on Facebook](#) to stay up to date on how NACO is celebrating National County Government Month!

LB216 Informational Handout

Our team has done comprehensive research on LB216, which seeks to eliminate the office of the clerk of the district court as an elected position, making current office-holders employees of the Judicial Branch of state government. NACO opposes this bill.



LB216: Clerks of the District Courts

Overview of LB216

LB216, as introduced, would eliminate the office of the clerk of the district court as an elected position and make current office-holders employees of the Judicial Branch of state government. The Judicial Branch claims this is necessary to uphold their constitutional and statutory mandate to place general administrative authority over all courts with the Nebraska Supreme Court, as exercised by the Chief Justice.

Effective date: January 1, 2026

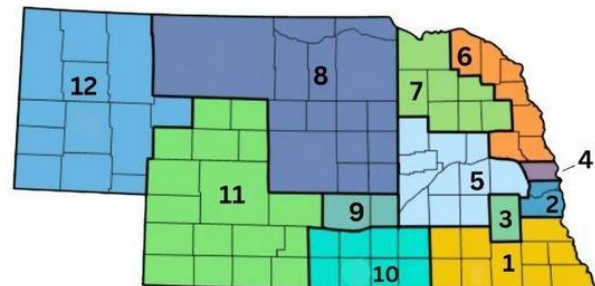
- If passed, in January 2026, 28 counties where the duties are currently performed by the County Clerk as an ex officio Clerk of the District Court will transition. Also, in January 2026, 10 counties, where the county currently contracts with the Judicial Branch to perform District Court duties will no longer be required to reimburse the State for a portion of the cost. In January 2027, LB216 transitions all remaining counties where the duties are currently performed by an elected Clerk of the District Court.

Clerk of the District Court: Duties

Clerks of the District Courts, aside from being the administrative officer of the court, are responsible for providing imperative services, including:

- Filing and preserving all papers delivered to him or her.
- Endorsing papers filed with him or her.
- Make entry of return of every summons, subpoena and order served.
- Keep the records, books and papers pertaining to the court and record its proceedings.
- Prepare and file the annual inventory statement of all county personal property in his or her custody and possession.
- Provide and process protection order applications.
- Track all court costs, fees, fines and restitution ordered on each case filed.

Each Clerk of the District Court is familiar with their own District Court's Local Rules. This is important because each of Nebraska's twelve District Courts has adopted a different set of Local Rules which supplements the Supreme Court's statewide rules for the District Courts set forth in Supreme Court Rules Chapter 6, Article 15 (Uniform District Court Rules of Practice and Procedure).

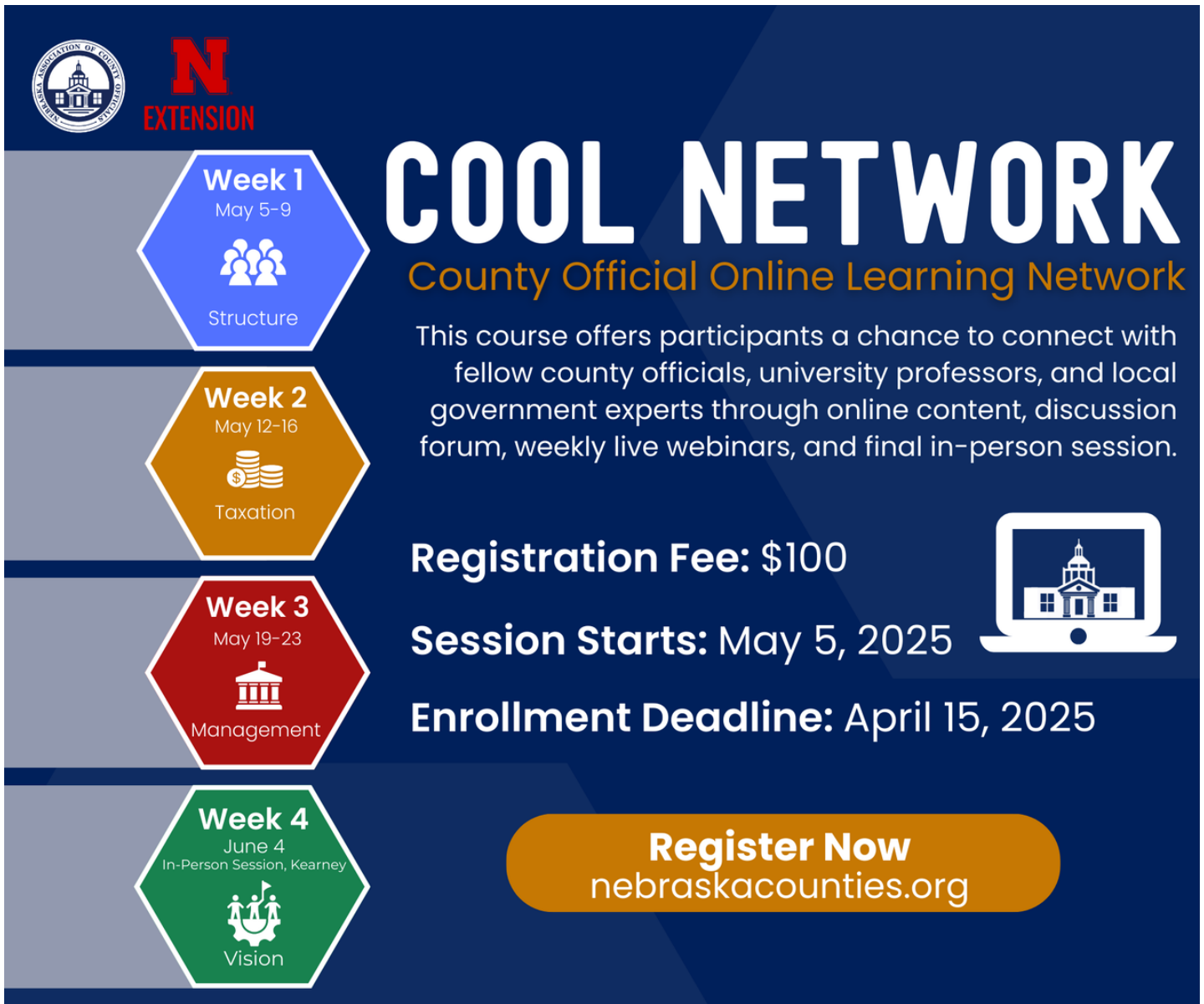


Nebraska's Twelve District Courts

Report Due April 30

The annual reports for the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) are due no later than April 30. [Click here](#) for updated information on reporting. You may also view a notice to recipients for SLFRF awards that was issued on March 25, 2025, by [clicking here](#).

Enrollment is Open for the 2025 County Official Online Learning (COOL) Network



The graphic features a dark blue background with a vertical list of four hexagonal icons on the left, each representing a week of the course. The icons are: a blue hexagon for 'Week 1: Structure', an orange hexagon for 'Week 2: Taxation', a red hexagon for 'Week 3: Management', and a green hexagon for 'Week 4: Vision'. To the right of the icons, the text 'COOL NETWORK' is written in large white letters, with 'County Official Online Learning Network' in orange below it. Further right, the text 'This course offers participants a chance to connect with fellow county officials, university professors, and local government experts through online content, discussion forum, weekly live webinars, and final in-person session.' is displayed. Below this, three key details are listed: 'Registration Fee: \$100', 'Session Starts: May 5, 2025', and 'Enrollment Deadline: April 15, 2025'. A laptop icon with a building on the screen is positioned to the right of the session start date. At the bottom right, a large orange button contains the text 'Register Now nebraskacounties.org'. In the top left corner of the graphic, the University of Nebraska Extension logo and a large red 'N' with the word 'EXTENSION' are visible.

Week 1
May 5-9
Structure

Week 2
May 12-16
Taxation

Week 3
May 19-23
Management

Week 4
June 4
In-Person Session, Kearney
Vision

COOL NETWORK

County Official Online Learning Network

This course offers participants a chance to connect with fellow county officials, university professors, and local government experts through online content, discussion forum, weekly live webinars, and final in-person session.

Registration Fee: \$100

Session Starts: May 5, 2025

Enrollment Deadline: April 15, 2025

Register Now
nebraskacounties.org

In collaboration with the University of Nebraska Extension, the County Official Online Learning (COOL) Network is a hybrid educational course that includes a three-week online unit in May 2025, followed by one in-person session in Kearney, NE, on June 4, 2025.

During the online portion, participants will use a learning management system to access videos and reading materials provided by professors, as well as insights from county and state officials. Participants can engage with the content at their own pace throughout the week, with opportunities for online discussion forums with fellow learners and a one-hour live webinar with the professor at the end of each week. The expected time commitment for learners is three to five hours per week.

The final session will take place in person at the Younes Conference Center North in Kearney, NE, on June 4, from 9:00 to 11:00 AM.

Topics covered include:

The purpose, structure, and funding of county government

Government finance, expenditures and mandates

Courthouse infrastructure, Information Technology risk management

Visioning and strategic planning

Session Starts: May 5, 2025

Enrollment Deadline: April 15, 2025

COOL Network Registration

Attorney General Hilgers Joins with Statewide Leaders to Launch Website to Support Law Enforcement & Prosecution Recruitment Efforts

On March 27, Attorney General Hilgers [announced the launch](#) of [SecureTheGoodLife.Nebraska.gov](https://www.securethegoodlife.nebraska.gov), a website that seeks to recruit new talent for law enforcement and prosecution offices in Nebraska. The site amplifies stories of those serving in Nebraska and promotes job openings across the state.



Convergence & NACo Launch "Convergence Compass" Pilot Program for County Officials

Convergence Center for Policy Resolution has partnered with the National Association of Counties to offer an eLearning program designed to help county officials navigate conflict,

foster collaboration, and solve complex problems in their communities. 15 applicants will be selected for the pilot program free of charge.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. The deadline to apply is April 30.

This is a great opportunity for county officials to strengthen their problem-solving and consensus-building skills in order to better serve their communities. Click the button below to submit your application before the April 30 deadline!

[Click Here to Apply for the Convergence Compass Cohort Program](#)

NACO Presents "Wildlife Wonders" Photography Contest

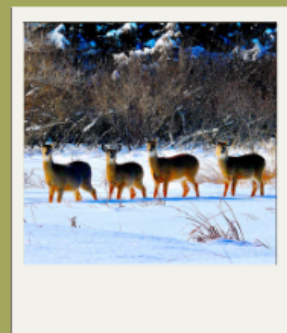
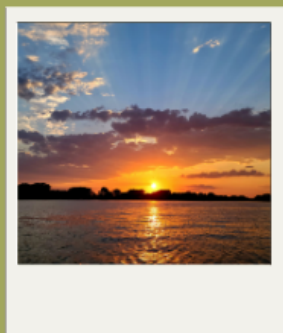
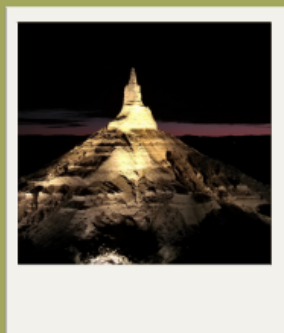
Wildlife Wonders Photography Contest



Submit your photo of Nebraska's Wildlife Wonders by **August 1** for a chance to be featured in NACO'S annual calendar!

For entry rules and photo criteria, visit www.nebraskacounties.org

Past Winners



Attention all photographers! NACO is hosting a photography contest:

"Wildlife Wonders"

NACO will select 13 winning photographs which will be featured in our annual calendar. Each winner will receive a calendar and a NACO swag bag! The GRAND PRIZE WINNER will receive \$100 and be featured on the cover!

There's more! Even if your photograph does not win, it may still be featured in a number of NACO publications, including the official website and social media.

How to Submit Entries

First, review the [rules](#)!

Then, take a spectacular photo of a native plant or animal someplace in a Nebraska county (but see rules for resolution requirements!)

Finally, submit your photo(s) [here](#) (limit of 3 photographs)

For more information about photo resolution using an iPhone, click [here](#).

For more information about photo resolution using an Android, click [here](#).

Questions?

Contact Luke Bonkiewicz at Luke.Bonkiewicz@NebraskaCounties.org.

[Contest Webpage](#)



NACO West Training Center Is Gearing Up for a Busy Season

Things are picking up at **NACO West Training Center**, and we couldn't be more excited! This new venture has been a long time in the making, and now, as we head into a busy season of events, we are looking forward to seeing it come to life. A place to **learn, connect, and inspire**, NACO West is ready to welcome teams looking to grow and collaborate.

With a full lineup of events on the horizon, there is a new energy in the air. We are excited about what's ahead and can't wait to host those looking for a space to share ideas and build something great together.

We know that the best ideas don't happen in isolation—they happen when people come together to exchange knowledge and challenge one another to think differently. That's exactly what we hope to cultivate at NACO West, and we're looking forward to seeing the impact that takes shape in the months ahead.

Here's to a season of growth, connection, and new possibilities at NACO West!

2025 NACO Outstanding County Board Member of the Year Nomination Form

Nominations for the 2025 Outstanding County Board Member Award are open to county board members who have been in office for at least two (2) terms. Criteria used for selecting the 2025 recipient includes: member will have been active on regional boards, been chairman of their county board, participated in the legislative process, or appointed to a statewide committee. Regular attendance at NACO educational opportunities, events and meetings is also required. Please keep your answers concise but be sure to include all pertinent information.

Announcement of the recipient of this award will be made after the Wednesday evening meal at the County Board Workshop in Kearney.

Submit nomination form to candace.meredith@nebraskacounties.org by May 2, 2025.

[Nomination Form](#)

New NACO Medicare Team Offers Guidance to County Employees and Communities

NACO is partnering with local Medicare Supplement experts to help assist employees as they transition from traditional health insurance to Medicare coverage. Our new partners have been fully vetted and are ready to help!



Medicare Guidance for County Employees & Communities

Navigating Medicare can feel overwhelming, but you don't have to do it alone. The **Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO)** is committed to supporting county employees and the communities they serve by providing trusted Medicare resources. Whether you're approaching retirement or simply exploring your options, we're here to help.

To ensure you receive expert guidance, NACO has partnered with licensed insurance agents at Pro Insurance Resources—a team of knowledgeable and caring professionals dedicated to making the Medicare transition seamless.

If you are nearing retirement, aware of a community member considering Medicare options or have a family member seeking support, contact your NACO District agent to schedule a consultation today.

“Medicare can be a complex and stressful process. We understand that resources are limited in rural Nebraska, which is why this partnership is a wonderful opportunity for all we serve. By providing access to qualified and compassionate professionals, we're ensuring individuals get the support they need to make informed decisions.”

— Candace Meredith,
NACO Deputy Director



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Not connected with or endorsed by the U.S. government or the federal Medicare program

20 BUSINESS 25 MEMBERS



ELITE MEMBERS



PREMIUM MEMBERS



Interested in becoming a 2025 NACO Business Member?

Connect your company with county officials across Nebraska and apply today!

RESOURCES

[Legislative Newsletter](#)

[County Employment Opportunities](#)

[Legal Calendar](#)



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