

September 12, 2025



The Ninety-Three

County Official Registration & Hotel Reservation for Annual Conference Now Open

County official registration for the 2025 annual conference is now open. The hotel reservation form deadline is October 10th, and county official pre-registration for the conference ends November 21st.

Please consult the 2025 annual conference [web page](#) for all information relevant to attendees, including the registration policy, agenda overview, hotel reservation details, and other helpful links. Bookmark the web page to ensure you always have access to the most up-to-date information.

[Register Here](#)

What Are You "All In" On?

At the 2025 NACO Annual Conference, we're celebrating being "all in" as a 100% NACo membership state.

Whether it's public safety, infrastructure, economic development, or health and human services, counties are **all in** on delivering solutions and building stronger communities across Nebraska.

Help us amplify and celebrate the dedication and innovation that define county government. Leading up to the conference, we want to know what you're "all in" on.

NACO Communications Specialist Lauren Franken will be collecting county officials' "all in" stories from now until the conference to be shared on our website and social media. To share your **"all in"** story, fill out [this questionnaire](#).

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION
OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

All In

DECEMBER 17-19, 2025

Fall 2025 NACO District Meetings

Central - Thursday, September 18th - The Leadership Center, 2211 Q St, Aurora. **Registration closed. Walk-ins welcome.** [View the agenda here.](#)

Panhandle - Wednesday, September 24th - Prairie Winds Community Center, 428 N Main St, Bridgeport. **Registration Deadline: 9/17/2025.** [View the agenda here.](#)

West Central - Thursday, September 25th - NACO West, 102 Diamond Springs Trail, Ogallala. **Registration Deadline: 9/17/25.** [View the agenda here.](#)

NACO Salary Study Overview & GIS Database Walk-Thru Webinar October 22nd

NACO will host a webinar on October 22nd at 2 p.m. CST to discuss the salary study findings and walk through the GIS database.

[Register here.](#)

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.

On September 19, the committee will hear [LR225](#) that would examine the need for a Green Amendment that was proposed as [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 ([LR192](#)), unfunded mandates ([LR195](#)), county initiatives and referendums ([LR253](#)), and riparian weed control funding ([LR168](#)). A full list of hearing dates and locations can be found [here](#).

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

NACO LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025
9AM-3PM

VINTAGE VENUE, 620 COURT STREET
BEATRICE, NE

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 [Board of Directors representative](#) prior to the Legislative Conference.

[Register here](#). View the tentative agenda [here](#).

[Register for the Legislative Conference](#)

County Official Award Nominations Now Open!

We are now accepting nominations for the County Official of the Year, Lifetime Achievement, and Next Generation awards. Nominations will be accepted until Friday, October 17, and the award recipients will be announced at the NACO Annual Conference in December.

Click the links below to access the nomination forms:

[County Official of the Year](#)

[Lifetime Achievement Award](#)

[Next Generation Award](#)

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 [Live Healthy Program](#) 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

NACo's **Live Healthy Discount program**

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

Create a Savi Account for Free Student Loan Repayment Guidance

What Borrowers Need to Know:

- As of August 1, 2025, student loan interest began accruing again for the nearly 8 million borrowers enrolled in the Saving on a Valuable Education (SAVE) Plan.
- The future of the SAVE Plan remains uncertain. In the meantime, interest is now being added to loan balances, though forbearances that pause payments remain in effect.
- While no immediate action is required, borrowers looking to avoid accumulating interest may want to switch to an active repayment plan. You can explore your options and [enroll directly through your Savi account](#).

The recent changes to student loan repayment plans may be confusing borrowers. **Please encourage county employees and their dependents to start an account using the link above.** If you would like an email template for sending this information to employees in your county, email Lauren.Franken@NebraskaCounties.org.

\$187

AVG. SAVINGS
PER MONTH

\$50K

AVG.
PROJECTED
FORGIVENESS



Founded by longtime student loan experts and advocates, Savi helps borrowers enroll in federal repayment and forgiveness programs that could lower their monthly payments and potentially forgive their loans.

CONQUER YOUR STUDENT LOANS



Savi detects your **eligibility for repayment options** and generates application forms digitally that are signed and submitted directly through Savi.

With Savi, **student loan expertise** is at your fingertips. Savi delivers tailored recommendations based on your unique loan profile with 1:1 support



Savi offers **free monthly educational webinars** to share student loan policy updates, explore the Savi tool, and answer your questions.



You can access a **free, instant estimate of savings** and broad student loan resources for financial health.



SCAN ME

Get started by scanning
the QR code or going to:
nacobenefits.bysavi.com

Nebraska Association of Emergency Management Annual Awards Nominations Open

The Nebraska Association of Emergency Management (NAEM) annual awards nomination process has begun. Click the links below to view the nomination forms and criteria.

[- Emergency Manager of the Year](#)

[- New Emergency Manager of the Year](#)

[- Deputy Director or Administrative Assistant of the Year](#)

[- Emergency Management Support Nomination](#)

[- Lifetime Achievement Award Nomination](#)

Collective Bargaining for Elected Officials

Elected officials serving on boards/councils/commissions may not have prior experience with or understand the role of labor unions and the collective bargaining process. Knowing how the collective bargaining process operates and its impact on the organization's employees and the taxpayers they represent is a critical duty for elected officials.

As such, the [William Brennan Institute for Labor Studies \(WBILS\)](#) has developed an e-learning (asynchronous) module to inform elected officials in the state of Nebraska with public sector unions who ultimately vote on collective bargaining agreements. The course, ***Collective Bargaining for Nebraska Elected Officials***, covers several different topics, including why organized labor exists, labor law (federal and state, including the CIR), unfair labor practices, and the collective bargaining process and its different phases in negotiating wages/hours/terms and conditions of employment.

[Enroll here.](#)

MICROCREDENTIAL

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING FOR NEBRASKA'S ELECTED OFFICIALS

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Omaha



Course Description

This course provides elected officials in Nebraska with a foundational understanding of labor unions, collective bargaining principles, and the legal frameworks governing labor negotiations within their state. Lessons cover the role of unions, good faith bargaining, unfair labor practices, and the distinctions between mandatory, permissive, and illegal bargaining subjects. By the end of the course, learners will be able to navigate labor negotiations with confidence while ensuring compliance with state and federal laws.

Learning Objectives

1. Identify the purpose of labor unions and key principles of collective bargaining
2. Explain Nebraska's collective bargaining laws and their function in labor relations
3. Apply principles of good faith bargaining to recognize unfair labor practices

Target Learner

This course is designed for elected officials in Nebraska who are responsible for overseeing or participating in public-sector labor negotiations. It is particularly beneficial for individuals seeking to better understand the legal and procedural aspects of collective bargaining and their role in ensuring fair and effective negotiations. No prior experience in labor relations is required.



The University of Nebraska does not discriminate based on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and/or political affiliation in its education programs or activities, including admissions and employment. The University prohibits any form of retaliation taken against anyone for reporting discrimination, harassment, or retaliation for otherwise engaging in protected activity.

Price

\$99.00

Length and Format

3-4 hours over 1 Week; fully online.

Course Topics

- Collective Bargaining
- Labor Relations
- Employment and Labor Laws

Course Developer



Jim Begley, MPA

*Director of William Brennan
Institute for Labor Studies
jamesbegley@unomaha.edu*

Enroll Today!



UPSKILL.UNOMAHA.EDU

What is a NACO Business Member?

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

20 BUSINESS 25 MEMBERS



ELITE MEMBERS



PREMIUM MEMBERS



RESOURCES

[Legislative Newsletter](#)

[County Employment Opportunities](#)

[Legal Calendar](#)



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