

November 7, 2025



# The Ninety-Three

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## **2025 NACO Annual Conference - *Register Before November 21st***

County official pre-registration for the 2025 annual conference is open until **Friday, 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.

A draft of the full agenda is [now available](#). *Please note that this agenda is subject to change.*

The logo for the 2025 NACO Annual Conference. It features a blue background with white text. At the top, it says "2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE". Below that is the word "All In" in a large, white, cursive font, with the letters partially cut out to reveal a dark blue shape underneath. At the bottom left is the NACO logo, which consists of the letters "NACO" in a serif font with a small building icon inside the letter "O", and the text "NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY OFFICIALS" below it. At the bottom right is the BlueCross BlueShield Nebraska logo, which includes a blue cross and shield icon, the text "BlueCross BlueShield" and "Nebraska" stacked vertically, and "ALL CONFERENCE SPONSOR" below it.

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**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](#).

## 2025 NACO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

# *What are you "All In" on?*

I am **all in** on the job I was hired to do: Taking care of veterans. After 20 years in the Army, I had another itch to take care of soldiers. I was a little intimidated by this job at first because it's not the same as in the Army with actual soldiers. In this job, you're dealing with veterans from every branch of the military, and they want your best. This job requires you to pay attention to what the veterans are saying so you can figure out what they actually need. The best part of this job is when they come back in the office and thank you because they're thanking you for not forgetting them. As a veteran myself, I know what that feeling is like.

I demonstrate my dedication by showing up for work every day and doing what they ask of me. I try to make it to as many community functions as possible where I know veterans will be. I try to make it to every funeral for veterans as well as celebrations for veterans. I place weekly articles in our local paper to keep veterans up to date on changes at the VA. I also serve as the Adjutant for the American Legion which keeps me in touch with the veterans.

-JOHN M. LUONGO  
THAYER COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

**From the Blog: NCCAE Annual Meeting, October 20-23, Rockingham County, NH**

At the end of October, NACO Executive Director Jon Cannon attended the Annual Meeting of the National Council of County Association Executives in Rockingham County, New Hampshire. Head to the blog to read about his key takeaways.

### NCCAE Meeting Recap

## Light Up Green for Veterans-November 4-11!

Thank you to Adams County and Clay County for sharing great photos of the green lights shining on your courthouses for Operation Green Light!

This Veteran's Day, we will celebrate the fifth anniversary of Operation Green Light. The National Association of Counties (NACo) and the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers (NACVSO) invite the nation's 3,069 counties, parishes, and boroughs to show support for veterans by lighting courthouses green from November 4-11, 2025. By shining a green light, county governments and our residents will let veterans know that they are seen, appreciated, and supported. [Click here](#) to view NACo's toolkit, which includes resolution templates, outreach sources, and suggested materials to make your participation in Operation Greenlight as easy as possible.

Please email photos to [Lauren.Franken@NebraskaCounties.org](mailto:Lauren.Franken@NebraskaCounties.org) so we can share them on our social media channels!



# Open Position: NACO Benefits Service Administrator

NACO is seeking a Benefits Service Administrator to manage the daily operations of NACO's group benefits programs and serve as the central point of contact between NACO, its partners, and county officials.

This position offers an exciting opportunity for a motivated professional to play a key role in supporting Nebraska counties, strengthening relationships with partners, and ensuring smooth and compliant delivery of benefit programs.

You'll work closely with the NACO Deputy Director and NACO Benefits Services partners to manage program administration, financial processes, marketing initiatives, and county support. The ideal candidate will bring a blend of insurance expertise, communication skills, and public service commitment.

The Administrator will also occasionally present benefit program information to county boards and represent NACO at meetings and conferences across the state.

[Click here](#) to learn more and apply!

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## Legislative Interim Studies Schedule

Meeting notices for municipalities ([LR149](#)) will be discussed by the Urban Affairs Committee on November 7. NACO, the League of Municipalities, and the Nebraska Association of School Boards have been meeting with the Nebraska Press Association to examine publication requirements. A broader study of meeting notice requirements, [LR192](#), was heard by the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee in early October.

Also on November 7, the Appropriations Committee will hear [LR188](#), a study of the significance of the state's financial partnership with the federal government in delivering health services through the Medicaid program.

In addition, the Appropriations and Revenue Committees will receive the 2025 Nebraska Tax Expenditure Report from the Department of Revenue on November 7.

Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee hearings on November 20 and 21 will review the retirement plans administered by the state ([LR96](#)) and underfunded defined benefit plans administered by political subdivisions that do not participate in state-administered retirement plans ([LR97](#)).

The Appropriations and Transportation and Telecommunications Committees will hear a report from the Nebraska Broadband Office on the status of broadband in Nebraska on December 3. The committees will also receive the Department of Transportation's Highway Needs Study Report.

Interim study resolutions are introduced during the regular legislative session to study issues following the adjournment. They provide an opportunity for a deeper dive into bills that were

introduced during prior sessions and some focus on ideas for bills to be introduced in 2026. Some hearings are limited to invited testimony, but public comments are accepted through the online comment button for each resolution. Some hearings will be livestreamed through [Nebraska Public Media](#).

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## Now Open: FY 2024 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant – *Applications Due December 7, 2025*

We would like to invite counties interested in applying for the now-open FY 2024 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant (SLCG) opportunity. **Applications are open through December 7, 2025.**

This year's funding focuses on the Recovery Phase of the NIST SP 800-184 Cybersecurity Program, which emphasizes restoring systems and strengthening resilience following cyber incidents.

### **Program Goal and Objectives**

Recover Systems

**Objective 1.1:** Ensure the ability to reconstitute systems in the event of a cyber incident.

*Action:* Develop organizational projects that increase backup and restoration capabilities.

**Objective 1.2:** Develop and assess logging practices and enhance logging.

*Action:* Implement projects focused on procuring SIEM tools or improving existing logging systems.

**Objective 1.3:** Map networks and data flows.

*Action:* Conduct mapping of organizational networks and data flows to identify vulnerabilities and dependencies.

Increase Response Activities

**Objective 2.1:** Develop and test cyber incident response plans.

*Action:* Conduct tabletop exercises to evaluate and improve response plans.

**Objective 2.2:** Strengthen stakeholder coordination.

*Action:* As part of incident response planning or exercises, coordinate interaction with both internal and external stakeholders.

**Objective 2.3:** Establish enterprise resiliency.

*Action:* Create out-of-band communications channels, off-site storage solutions, and infrastructure recovery plans; develop proactive, not reactive, cybersecurity strategies.

These objectives align with the Nebraska Cybersecurity Plan and are designed to enhance counties' readiness and recovery capabilities in the face of evolving cyber threats.

<https://slcg.nebraska.gov/docs/cybersecurity-plan.pdf>

<https://slcg.nebraska.gov/docs/fy2024-slcgp-nofo.pdf>

Please share this information with your designated cybersecurity department or service provider to determine whether this grant opportunity is a good fit for your county.

To apply, go to: <https://slcg.nebraska.gov/>

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## County Officials Invited to Take AI Survey

From the University of Nebraska at Omaha School of Public Administration:

County officials are invited to take part in a brief survey exploring how local governments in Nebraska and across the United States are approaching artificial intelligence (AI)—its current uses, governance, opportunities, and challenges.

Your perspective is valuable, whether or not your local government has begun using AI or you consider yourself familiar with the topic. The survey takes about 10–15 minutes to complete, and all responses will remain strictly confidential. You can access the survey directly through the Qualtrics link below—your participation will make an important contribution to this statewide effort.

As a small thank-you, you may request a summary of the findings at the end of the survey that you can use as a resource for your work and for Nebraska's broader local government community. Findings will also be shared with partner organizations, including the Nebraska Association of County Officials, the Nebraska City/County Management Association, and the Nebraska Municipal Clerks Association.

We sincerely appreciate your time and thoughtful participation. Your insights will help advance understanding of how local governments are engaging with the opportunities and challenges presented by AI.

[Take the Survey](#)

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## 2027 Community-based Juvenile Services Aid and Enhancement Grant Program

The Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice is pleased to announce the availability of both the **2027 Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program [CB] and Enhancement [EB]**. The Request for Application [RFA] outlines general guidelines, eligibility, funding requirements, and application instructions. You are encouraged to distribute and post the announcement. Please [read the RFA thoroughly](#) to ensure all requirements are met

in the application. The attached documents are also located at the following website: <https://ncc.nebraska.gov/grant-apps>. Please note the changes in the RFA regarding diversion on page 6, reporting requirements on page 10, and program income on page 17.

\*\*\*If you plan to apply for both CBA and EB, you will need to complete both applications in the appropriate Euna (Amplifund) portal as listed below. The EB application must be on the EB application template and submitted separately.\*\*\*

[FY27 Community-based Aid Application Template \(CB\)](#)

[FY27 Community-based Aid Application Template \(EB\)](#)

## **2027 Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program: \$5,498,000**

All applicants applying for the 2027 Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program [CB] shall submit an application using the link below through Euna (Amplifund).

<https://ne.amplifund.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/dadf21a9-59d8-4e81-b141-064007813c88>

## **2027 Community-based Juvenile Services Aid - Enhancement [EB]**

All applicants applying for the 2027 Community-based Juvenile Services Aid - Enhancement [EB] shall submit an application using the link below through Euna (Amplifund).

<https://ne.amplifund.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/7d76e2cd-20e5-4511-ac1-3f65af1274d7>

EMAIL APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

PAPER APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

You can find pre-recorded training videos to review the RFA and grant application on the NCC Grant Announcements website under the FY2025 Community-based Juvenile Services Aid (CBA) announcement at the bottom of the page.

An instructional video for how to apply using Amplifund can be found at [https://rooms.vidyard.com/rooms/\\_wEY6z9GESNh2IBhuCwylw?vy\\_player\\_uuid=92KSHRHx8zy5sqiHhGBJNs](https://rooms.vidyard.com/rooms/_wEY6z9GESNh2IBhuCwylw?vy_player_uuid=92KSHRHx8zy5sqiHhGBJNs)

## **Application Deadline for both CBA and EB grants: January 7, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.**

The Crime Commission does not plan to release the FY2027 Juvenile Services Commission Grant Program [JS] funding until further notice. The Legislature will consider the proposal to consolidate the two juvenile services grant programs under the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program with additional funding for truancy programs."

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## **2027 Office of Violence Prevention Grant Program**

the availability of the **2027 Office of Violence Prevention Grant [OVP]**. The Request for Application [RFA] outlines general guidelines, eligibility, funding requirements, and application instructions. You are encouraged to distribute and post the announcement. Please read the RFA thoroughly to ensure all requirements are met in the application. [This document](#) is also located at the following website: <https://ncc.nebraska.gov/grant-apps>. Please note the changes in the RFA regarding evaluations on page 5, reporting requirements on page 8, and program income on page 12.

## **2027 Office of violence prevention grant: \$511,822**

All applicants applying for the 2027 Office of Violence Prevention [OVP] shall submit an application using the below link through Euna (Amplifund).

<https://ne.amplifund.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/0188fd01-c982-4b8f-8cb1-6b40968480b7>

EMAIL APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

PAPER APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

An instructional video for how to apply using Amplifund can be found at  
[https://rooms.vidyard.com/rooms/\\_wEY6z9GESNh2IBhuCwylw?vy\\_player\\_uuid=92KSHRHx8zy5sqiHhGBJNs](https://rooms.vidyard.com/rooms/_wEY6z9GESNh2IBhuCwylw?vy_player_uuid=92KSHRHx8zy5sqiHhGBJNs)

**Application Deadline for OVP grant: December 18, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.**

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## **Elite Business Member Spotlight: Union Bank & Trust**

### **Products and services designed to help public agencies thrive.**

UBT's suite of Public Agency Services includes a breadth of products and services designed to meet your organization's unique needs, along with a dedicated team of skilled financial advocates to help administer them. With one phone call, you can reach an expert who can help you with everything from investments to treasury management to employee benefits packages. It's personalized service with a one-stop shop approach, offered by real people who really care about helping Nebraska agencies be successful. Because when your agency thrives, we all thrive.



## 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.

**2026 Business Memberships Now Open**

# 20 BUSINESS 25 MEMBERS



## ELITE MEMBERS



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Benefits Group



## PREMIUM MEMBERS



TRANE  
TECHNOLOGIES



## RESOURCES

County Employment Opportunities

Legal Calendar



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