

March 13, 2026



# The Ninety-Three

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## Call for Applications– LB663 Committee

NACO President Valery Bell has created the LB663 Committee to develop best practices, tools, and a resource library to support county regulation and permitting decisions.

The committee will operate from late March through mid-July, with two in-person meetings and the remainder virtual. Key deliverables will include a county siting and review checklist across multiple project types, plus a library of Nebraska and nationwide county land use regulations and guidance on local/state/federal permitting touchpoints. The committee will also provide feedback on the education platform supporting the new education requirement for county board members.

**Please submit your application for the committee by filling out this form: [LB663 Committee – Fill out form.](#)**

[LB663 Committee Nomination Form](#)

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## Register for 2026 COOL Network

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 2026, followed by one in-person session in Kearney, NE, on June 3, 2026.

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 3, 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

New county officials and emerging leaders are especially encouraged to participate! [Click here to register.](#)

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EXTENSION

# 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 4, 2026**

**Enrollment Deadline: April 17, 2026**

**Register Now**  
[nebraskacounties.org](http://nebraskacounties.org)

**Week 1**  
May 4-8  
Structure

**Week 2**  
May 11-15  
Taxation

**Week 3**  
May 18-22  
Management

**Week 4**  
June 3  
In-Person Session, Kearney  
Vision

**Register for the COOL Network**

## University of Nebraska-Omaha Data and Research Series

We invite you to join the University of Nebraska at Omaha Center for Public Affairs Research for the Data and Research Series for Community Impact: Creating a Local Data Infrastructure

on March 24. The professional development series is perfect for anyone looking to use data to drive change in our communities — whether you're a seasoned pro or just getting started.

## Details

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

9 A.M.-12 P.M.

In-person, limited to 90 attendees

Virtual via Zoom Webinar

The 2025 Data and Research Series for Community Impact explored growing challenges facing federal data sources, including threats to data quality, access, and long-term sustainability. In the first session of 2026, we build on this conversation by shifting the focus to local data — data collected at the state, regional, or community level to support local decision-making — and exploring where gaps exist and what it will take to strengthen local data capacity.

**Deadline to register is March 20. Don't wait to secure your seat!**

**See the full agenda and presenters: [cpar.unomaha.edu/series](https://cpar.unomaha.edu/series)**

**Register: [https://unomaha.formstack.com/forms/2026\\_cpar\\_data\\_series\\_part\\_one](https://unomaha.formstack.com/forms/2026_cpar_data_series_part_one)**

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## NACO Spring District Meetings

[Central District Meeting](#)

Thursday, March 19, 2026

Registration Closed-Walk-ins welcome

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Younes Center North, 707 Talmadge St, Kearney, NE 68845

[Panhandle District Meeting](#)

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

9:00 am MDT - 12:00 pm MDT

Prairie Winds Community Center, 428 N Main St, Bridgeport, NE

[West Central District Meeting](#)

Thursday, March 26, 2026

[View Draft Agendas Here](#)

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## 2026 NACO Scholarship Application Deadline Approaching

The NACO scholarship application is available until March 16th, 2026. The scholarship program is open to graduating seniors whose parent, step-parent, or grandparent is a current county official or employee. To be considered, students must complete the required application form, submit a seven-semester transcript from an accredited Nebraska high school, and prepare a written essay on the importance of county government.

Scholarship recipients must plan to attend a post-secondary educational institution within the state of Nebraska and may use the scholarship for any costs associated with their continuing education.

**Application deadline: March 16, 2026**

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

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## 2026 NACO Outstanding County Board Member Award Nominations Open

Nominations for the 2026 Outstanding County Board Member Award are open to county board members who have been in office for at least two (2) terms. Criteria used to select the 2026 recipient include: the member will have been active on regional boards, served as chairman of their county board, participated in the legislative process, or been appointed to a statewide committee. Regular attendance at NACO educational opportunities, events, and meetings is also required.

Announcement of the recipient of this award will be made after the Wednesday evening meal at the County Board Workshop in Kearney on June 3, 2026. Submit the [nomination form](#) to [candace.meredith@nebraskacounties.org](mailto:candace.meredith@nebraskacounties.org) by April 24, 2026.

[Outstanding County Board Member Nomination Form](#)

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# Understanding Medicare Webinar Thursday, March 19th

Get the information you need to manage your health care costs and navigate the Medicare transition with confidence. [Attend a free webinar](#) on Thursday, March 19th, at either 12:00 PM or 6:00 PM CST.

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## SFY 2027 VOCA & Victim Assistance Grant

The Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice is pleased to announce the availability of the **SFY2027 VOCA & Victim Assistance Grant**.

The Request for Applications (RFA) outlines general guidelines, eligibility, funding requirements, and application instructions. Please share this announcement with other interested parties. Please read the RFA thoroughly to ensure all requirements are met in the application. The attached document is also located at the following website:

<https://ncc.nebraska.gov/grant-apps>

### **SFY2027 VOCA & Victim Assistance Grant: approximately \$6,000,000**

Eligible applicants include organizations that provide direct services to victims of crime that operate as a public agency or nonprofit organization in the state of Nebraska.

All applicants applying for this grant program shall submit an application using the link below through Euna (formerly Amplifund.)

<https://ne.amplifund.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/55655ebc-432d-4a81-8fab-6c849eef693f>

EMAIL and PAPER APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

For instructions on how to submit an application through Euna, please refer to the video guide found here: [https://rooms.vidyard.com/rooms/\\_wEY6z9GESNh2IBhuCwvlw?vy\\_player\\_uuid=92KSHRHx8zy5sqiHhGBJNs](https://rooms.vidyard.com/rooms/_wEY6z9GESNh2IBhuCwvlw?vy_player_uuid=92KSHRHx8zy5sqiHhGBJNs)

Application Deadline: **Monday, April 13, 2026 | 5:00pm (CDT)**

Questions may be directed to

### **Emily Schoenleber**

Victim Services Grant Administrator

402-416-4129

[emily.schoenleber@nebraska.gov](mailto:emily.schoenleber@nebraska.gov)

### **Shealyn Warrick**

VOCA Grant Manager

# Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise Webinar Series: Business Email Compromise

Cyber threats targeting local governments are on the rise, and Business Email Compromise (BEC) attacks can cripple finance departments if left unchecked. Are you ready to respond effectively?

Join Harrisburg University, the National Association of Counties, and CAI for an immersive **4-day Cybersecurity Tabletop Certificate** designed exclusively for local government professionals. Through dynamic daily simulations, you'll gain actionable strategies to identify vulnerabilities, improve policies, and coordinate cross-departmental incident responses.

## Course Details:

**Dates:** Monday, March 30th – Thursday, April 2nd 1:00 – 2:00 PM ET

**Format:** Daily Zoom webinars and online forum discussions

**Certificate Requirements:** Attend all sessions, complete assignments, and actively engage in discussions

## Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this cyber simulation, participants will be able to:

- Identify and assess BEC attack vectors and indicators
- Implement/review verification procedures for financial transactions and wire transfers
- Coordinate incident response across Finance, IT, Legal, Administration, and Communications departments
- Execute proper notification procedures to financial institutions, law enforcement, and oversight agencies
- Assess data breach implications, including vendor information and payment history exposure
- Develop communication strategies for internal and external stakeholders
- Review and update financial controls and cybersecurity policies

[Register now](#)

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Support provided by our generous business members helps NACO 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.

2026 business memberships are still open. Click the button below to learn more.

**2026 Business Memberships**

# 20 BUSINESS 26 MEMBERS



## ELITE MEMBERS



## PREMIUM MEMBERS



## RESOURCES

[Legislative Newsletter](#)

[County Employment Opportunities](#)

[Legal Calendar](#)

[2026 Election Calendar](#)

[Property Assessment and Taxation Calendar](#)



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