

ESSENTIALS OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT

**PRESENTED IN
PARTNERSHIP BY**



SCHOOL OF
GOVERNMENT
Center for Public
Leadership and
Governance

North Carolina Association of County Commissioners

Congratulations on your election!

The North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) appreciates your service as a county commissioner. We are in a pivotal and exciting time for counties. As a county commissioner, you have a new set of responsibilities and are tasked with governing a broad range of services, but don't worry; the Association is here to help.

Since 1908, the NCACC has been the official voice of all 100 counties on issues considered by the General Assembly, Congress, and federal and state agencies. The Association provides expertise and services to counties in numerous areas such as:

Advocacy

The Association employs a team of registered lobbyists who advocate on behalf of counties' interests before dozens of administrative, legislative, and rule-making committees during and in between legislative sessions.

Policy Research

The Association Policy Team offers presentations and issue analysis on the economy, taxes, budgeting, local government legal issues, and specific policy issues. County commissioners and staff can access published survey data like the annual County Map Book, tax rate survey, budget guidance, and more. NCACC staff can provide insight into the information to keep county officials informed about data that affects each county.

Strategic Member Services

NCACC's new department, created to provide expertise and help counties respond to the heightened load of administrative duties accompanying American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and national opioid settlement funds.

Education and Training

The Association hosts many educational and leadership training programs, both in-person and virtually to reach our statewide membership and create relationship-building and networking opportunities.

Membership Programs and Solutions

NCACC works with member counties to identify, triage, and implement solutions to service issues through field visits with county commissioners and staff. Additionally, NCACC offers considerable cost savings and cost-recovery programs to help member counties reduce costs and improve efficiencies.

Risk Management

The NCACC's Risk Management Pools (RMP) are the largest and most continuous provider of North Carolina county government insurance protection. Managed by a board of trustees comprised of counties, the RMP offers property, liability, and workers' compensation insurance coverage.

Communications

The Association's Communications Team works to tell the story of North Carolina counties and keep you updated through numerous award-winning communication channels such as *CountyQuarterly* magazine, social media, email newsletters, *CountyCast* podcast, and documentaries, among others.

Empowering 100 Counties

The NCACC is the official voice of all 100 counties on issues considered by the General Assembly, Congress, and federal and state agencies. The Association recognizes counties' critical partnership with the state of North Carolina and promotes strategies that enhance state and county collaboration, communication, and cooperation.

NCACC Vision

Empowering 100 counties to work together for the betterment of one state.

NCACC Mission

Our Association supports and promotes the well-being of all North Carolina counties through advocacy, education, research, and member services.

Visit [NCACC.org](https://ncacc.org) to learn more.

UNC School of Government Center for Public Leadership and Governance

Thank you for your decision to run for public office, and congratulations on winning the election. As you make the transition from campaigning to governing, the UNC School of Government is here to help.

For more than 90 years, the School has offered training programs, research and writing, and real-time advising to North Carolina's public officials. We have built a legacy of trust based on being nonpartisan, policy neutral, and responsive. Three relevant resources available to you include:

Expert Advising and Consulting

Our faculty are available by phone and email to consult on their areas of expertise.

go.unc.edu/sogfaculty

Legislative Reporting Service

This free website provides immediate access to the daily business of the North Carolina General Assembly

lrs.sog.unc.edu

Coates' Canons

This *North Carolina Local Government Law Blog* is a joint effort of School of Government faculty. Posts may range from updates on legal developments to providing detailed analysis of complicated legal issues.

canons.sog.unc.edu

The Center for Public Leadership and Governance

You don't govern alone. The Center for Public Leadership and Governance (CPLG) has many offerings to help you gain skills to lead and manage change in your community. Within the center resides the Local Elected Leaders' Academy (LELA). It's a place within the School to help local elected officials. It offers pathways for learning and recognition designed to meet your needs at any phase of your tenure in public office.

Courses

Essentials of County Government is only the beginning of your education as an elected official. Throughout the year, in addition to the LELA courses, CPLG offers regular courses on a range of topics including fiduciary responsibility, facilitation, and economic development.

go.unc.edu/LELA

On-Demand Learning

Designed to fit your schedule, our multitude of online resources offer quick and on-demand learning to help you keep up with the challenges of your role.

go.unc.edu/LearnNowLELA

Ethics for Elected Officials

Access resources and information on ethics training opportunities, including the state-mandated ethics requirement.

bit.ly/electedethics

Board Retreats and Facilitation

CPLG helps the leaders of cities, counties, and other local or regional government units to conduct board retreats.

go.unc.edu/cplgretreats

Strategic Planning

Strategic leadership provides clear priorities to guide your organization, helps you allocate resources to pursue those priorities, and provides a means to assess your progress toward implementation and results.

go.unc.edu/cplgstratplanning

Publications

The *Local Government Board Builders* books provide practical advice and in-depth insight on common activities and topics for local government boards.

go.unc.edu/lgbb

Community and Economic Development Blog

This blog supports community and economic development efforts in North Carolina by sharing resources, stories, and promising practices from across our state.

ced.sog.unc.edu

Visit cplg.sog.unc.edu to learn more.

