

Director Education

Programs and Requirements

CREDENTIALLED COOPERATIVE DIRECTOR (CCD) CERTIFICATE

The Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) curriculum consists of five courses designed to provide essential knowledge and skills required of cooperative directors.

The CCD is earned by attending all five required courses and successfully completing a learning assessment for each.

Required Courses

- 2600** Director Duties and Liabilities
- 2610** Understanding the Electric Business
- 2620** Board Operations & Process
- 2630** Strategic Planning
- 2640** Financial Decision Making

BOARD LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE (BLC)

The Board Leadership Certificate (BLC) is the next step in advancing the knowledge and experience directors need to govern their board effectively. This credential can be attained by earning the CCD and then completing a total of 10 credits from the 900-level courses. Directors may attend BLC courses at any time but the BLC will not be awarded until the CCD program requirements are completed.

Current Course Offerings

Communications

- 909.1** Effective Governance in the Face of Crisis
- 943.1** Conversation Skills Outside the Boardroom
- 950.1** Practical Communication Strategies for Directors

Cooperative Business Model

- 913.1** Cooperative Fundamentals: Legacy and Economic Impact ●
- 919.1** Cooperative Structure: A Strategic Advantage

Financial

- 974.1** Rate Making Strategies and Policy Decisions for Electric Cooperative Boards
- 975.1** Capital Credits Issues and Decisions
- 977.1** Equity Management and Boardroom Decision Making

Governance

- 901.1** Basic Parliamentary Procedures for Directors
- 903.1** The Role of the Board Chair in Conducting Effective Meetings
- 905.1** Assessing Governance: Taking a Continuous Improvement Approach to Governing Your Co-op

- 925.1** Co-op Bylaws: Guiding Principles & Current Issues ●
 - 929.1** Current Governance Issues in Policy Development ●
 - 930.1** Ethics and Governance: Implementing the New Accountability ●
 - 935.1** Appraising and Compensating the CEO
 - 937.1** Applying Emotional Intelligence in the Boardroom
 - 941.2** The Gettysburg Leadership Experience
 - 946.2** Lewis and Clark Experience
 - 951.1** Developing Effective Boardroom Decision-Making
 - 952.1** Increasing Influence and Building Board Consensus
 - 953.1** Improving Board Decision Making Quality
 - 955.1** Your Board's Culture: Its Impact on Effectiveness
 - 957.1** How to Evaluate and Improve Board Performance
 - 958.1** Succession Planning: Developing the Purpose-Driven Organization
 - 959.1** Boardroom Challenges: Connecting Theory to Action
 - 960.1** Value of the Generation, Transmission, and Distribution Relationship
 - 973.1** Moving the Fence: A Guide to Shared Services, System Mergers and Territorial Acquisitions
 - 979.1** ESG and the Cooperative Difference
 - 984.1** The Road to Resilience: The Board's Responsibility
 - 988.1** The Board's Role in Safety
 - 990.1** CCD Refresher (*must have completed CCD 3 years prior*)
- ##### Power Supply
- 961.1** Cooperative Power Supply: An Industry in Transition
 - 976.1** Power Supply Decision Making
- ##### Risk Management
- 921.1** Risk Oversight: The Board's Role in Risk Management
 - 927.1** Cybersecurity: The Board's Oversight Role
 - 928.1** Artificial Intelligence and Electric Cooperatives
 - 965.1** Electric Vehicles: Strategy and Policy Considerations
 - 985.1** Considering Broadband: The Due Diligence Process

● = Recommended course for all directors.

NOTE: 900-level courses not listed above are no longer offered but they do apply toward the certificate if they were taken after January 1995. The credit value for each BLC course is indicated after the decimal point in the course number. For example, course 941.2 provides two (2) credits.

DIRECTOR GOLD CREDENTIAL

The Director Gold credential (DGC) recognizes directors committed to continuing their education beyond the CCD and BLC. Director Gold demonstrates a tangible commitment to advancing their knowledge and executing their board responsibilities to the best of their ability.

Requirements

To earn the initial Director Gold credential, a director must meet the following criteria:

- Hold the CCD and BLC credentials.
- Earn three additional credits from the Board Leadership Certificate series of courses. For the initial Director Gold credential, only BLC courses will be accepted for credit.

NOTE: Once you are eligible, you must “opt in” to the program indicating your interest in earning the Director Gold credential before a certificate will be issued to you. Please see opt in form on cooperative.com/directorgold.

Maintaining Director Gold Status

Directors must earn three credits from the NRECA Approved List of Continuing Education Programs within a two-year period from the time their last Director Gold credential was awarded. A minimum of two credits must be earned from BLC courses. The list of programs eligible for credit may be amended from time to time at NRECA’s discretion. Visit cooperative.com/directorgold for the latest approved list of continuing education programs.

NRECA Approved List of Continuing Education Programs

- NRECA Board Leadership Certificate Course
- NRECA Directors Conference (1 credit)
- CFC Forum (1 credit)
- FCCS Excellence in Board Leadership (1 credit)

Please note – Renewal certificates will be issued the January after they expire, and attendance records will be updated with new cycle dates around the same time.



NOT SURE WHERE TO START?

Our Online Director Education Assessment is designed to help you assess your understanding of governance and industry issues and provide you with a personal learning plan based on your current knowledge and experience. Visit cooperative.com/directored to choose your path!

LEARN MORE

Visit cooperative.com/directors to learn more about our director education courses and certificate programs or contact Angie Hylton at angie.hylton@nreca.coop or 703-907-5656.

As of 1/7/2025

Check Your Course Record!
Visit cooperative.com/courserecord.