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Contact Information

Nebraska Educators Rising

PO Box 57308
Lincoln, NE 68505

Chelsey Greene

State Advisor
(531) 207-3104
chelsey.greene@nebraska.gov

Miranda Bright

Human Sciences & Education Career Field
Specialist
(402) 937-5095
miranda.bright@nebraska.gov

Website: <http://www.nebraskafccla.org>

Nebraska Educators Rising Payment Remit

Grafton & Associates
5935 S 56th St, Ste. A
Lincoln, NE 68516
(402) 486-3600

National Educators Rising

PO Box 13090
Arlington, VA 22219

(800) 766-1156 (10am-4pm ET)
info@educatorsrising.org

Website: <https://educatorsrising.org/>

National Educators Rising Payment Remit

PO Box 745955
Atlanta, GA 30374-5955

National Association Information

Mission

To inspire and grow current and rising educators to become community leaders and advocates for high quality education.

Vision

To eliminate the teacher shortage by reimagining educator pathways.

Core Values

PDK International incorporates the following five core values into its work:

Community,
Leadership,
Service,
Optimism, and
Excellence.

2025-26 National Theme

Teach with Purpose, Lead with Passion



Teach with Purpose,
Lead with Passion

State Association Information

Board of Directors

The Nebraska Educators Rising Board of Directors shall be the policy making body for the State Association. The State Advisor is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the State Association.

	Board Position/Office/Committee	Term Ends
Lynne Herr ESU 6 Teacher Leader lynne.herr@esu6.org	At-Large Teacher Leader President Executive / Finance	June 2028
Jen Barga Centennial Teacher Leader jennifer.barga@centennialbroncos.org	At-Large Teacher Leader Treasurer Executive / Finance / Community	June 2028
Amber Myers Curriculum Specialist & Director of Community Programs at Omaha Westview High School amber.myers@ops.org	At-Large Member Secretary Executive / Finance / Capacity	June 2027
Jane Luethge Teaching & Learning Consultant at Omaha Public Schools jane.luethge@ops.org	At-Large Member Capacity	June 2026
Jame Cartwright Lincoln TCA Teacher Leader jcartwright@southeast.edu	At-Large Member Community	June 2028
Vacant	At-Large Member	June 2028
Rebecca Dunn Ralston Teacher Leader rebecca_dunn@ralstonschools.org	At-Large Teacher Leader Finance / Community	June 2026
Ann Knust Wakefield Teacher Leader aknust@wakefieldschools.org	At-Large Teacher Leader Capacity	June 2027
Dr. Tanya Martin Education Department Chair at Nebraska Wesleyan University tmartin@nebrwesleyan.edu	NACTE Representative Capacity	June 2026
Tim Royers NSEA President tim.royers@nsea.org	NSEA Representative Community	June 2026
Vacant	NCSA Representative Community	June 2028
Vacant	PDK Representative Capacity	June 2027

Articles of Incorporation

Articles of Incorporation are the official documents filed with the state that established the state association. These documents outline important details like the association’s name, purpose, and structure, creating the foundation for its recognized legal status.

Bylaws

The Bylaws identify the basic procedures relating to the State Association and the limitations placed on the powers of membership.

Policy Handbook

The Policy Handbook provides members and teacher leaders with essential guidelines, procedures, and expectations set by the state association. It serves as a reference tool to ensure chapters operate consistently and in alignment with state policies.

2025-26 State Officers

	Chapter	Office	Email Address
Karli Knaub	Scottsbluff	President	president@edrisingneb.org
Camila Martinez	Omaha South	VP of Development	vpdevelopment@edrisingneb.org
Grace Johnson	Ralston	VP of Membership	vpmembership@edrisingneb.org
Khadijah Brooks	Papillion La Vista South	VP of Public Relations	vppublicrelations@edrisingneb.org
	Harleigh Claussen	<i>State Officer Coordinator</i>	harleigh@edrisingneb.org
	Lea Hanson	<i>State Officer Coordinator</i>	lea@edrisingneb.org



2025-26 State Theme

Beyond the Horizon

2025-26 State Officer Team Program of Work

State Officer Visit Request

State Officers look forward to connecting with local chapters this year! They can present on a variety of topics but are especially excited to connect with chapters to promote initiatives from their Program of Work.

Request a State Officer to visit your chapter or provide support for an event by completing the [State Officer Visit Request Form](#).

Affiliation & Membership

Membership Eligibility

Local chapters may be established in schools that provide systematic Career and Technical Education instruction in Education and Training. ESU chapters are secondary to the local chapter; they are not entitled to voting delegates or voting rights.

Any secondary student in grades 9-12 currently or previously enrolled in secondary courses preparing them for Education-related occupations shall be entitled to become an active member of the local Educators Rising chapter upon payment of State and National dues.

Courses that meet the membership requirement include:

- 350001 - Teaching as a Profession
- 350002 - Best Practices in Education & Training with Work-Based Learning
- 350003 - Education & Training Practicum with Work-Based Learning
- 320706 - Education & Training Work-Based Learning Experience
- 320712 - Human Services Work-Based Learning Experience
- 090101 - Introduction to Family & Consumer Sciences
- 090119 - Child Development
- 090123 - Lifespan Development
- 090122 - Early Childhood Education Practicum with Work-Based Learning
- 090127 - Families in Crisis
- 090132 - Family & Community Advocacy
- 090134 - Best Practices in Early Childhood Education with Work-Based Learning
- Education/Teacher Education Dual Credit
- Early Childhood Education Dual Credit
- Middle School Career Exploration
- High School Career Exploration

Dues & Fees

State dues are paid to the national organization with national dues. Currently, national dues are \$15 per member and state dues are \$10 per member; total dues per member is \$25.

The initial affiliation deadline is November 1. After this date, teacher leaders and members will lose access to materials in the membership system. The final affiliation deadline is February 1. The affiliation payment deadline is February 15.

There are a variety of resources available to assist teacher leaders and members with the annual affiliation process. Teacher leaders should review the materials to ensure they properly join as a teacher leader before students begin the process. Review the materials available on the [Chapter Management page](#) of the Nebraska Educators Rising website.

Chapter Directory

Aurora	Rebecca Huls	rhuls@4rhuskies.org	ESU 9
Aurora	Lindsey Pohlmeier	lpohlmeier@4rhuskies.org	ESU 9
Aurora	Grace Samuelson	gsamuelson@4rhuskies.org	ESU 9
Banner County	Wittni Boettcher	wittni.boettcher@bcswildcats.org	ESU 13
Bayard	MyKayla Torres	MyKayla.torres@bayardtigers.org	ESU 13
Bellevue West	Deanna Vavak	deanna.vavak@bpsne.net	ESU 3
Centennial	Jen Bargaen	jennifer.bargaen@centennialbroncos.org	ESU 6
Columbus	Kristin Biggs	biggsk@discoverers.org	ESU 7
Columbus	Brandi Fleming	flemingb@discoverers.org	ESU 8
Doniphan-Trumbull	Carrie Kuhlmann	ckuhlmann@dtcardinals.org	ESU 9
ESU 6	Lynne Herr	lynne.herr@esu6.org	ESU 6
ESU 9	Katie Soto	katie.soto@esu9.us	ESU 9
Grand Island Senior High	Lauren Schumacher	lschumacher@gips.org	ESU 10
Gretna	Kari Bulgrin	kbulgrin@gpsne.org	ESU 3
Gretna East	Shea Miller	smiller@gpsne.org	ESU 3
Hampton	Katelyn Goertzen	kgoertzen@hamptonhawks.us	ESU 9
Hampton	Jereme Jones	jjones@hamptonhawks.us	ESU 9
Harvard	Tory Gilson	tgilson@harvardcardinals.org	ESU 9
Kearney	Kevin Witte	kevwitte@kearneycats.com	ESU 10
Kenesaw	Johnna Burr	jburr@kenesawschools.org	ESU 9
Lincoln East	Anne Daly	adaly@lps.org	ESU 18
Lincoln East	Kristin Murphy	keckman@lps.org	ESU 18
Lincoln North Star	Rachel King	rking2@lps.org	ESU 18
Lincoln Northwest	Margaret Pass	mpass@lps.org	ESU 18
Lincoln Southeast	ReeAnna Armagost	rarmago@lps.org	ESU 18
Lincoln Southeast	Kelley Winter	kwinter@lps.org	ESU 18
Lincoln Standing Bear	Valerie Hinrichs	vhinrich@lps.org	ESU 18
Lincoln The Career Academy	Jame Cartwright	jcartwright@southeast.edu	ESU 18
Lincoln The Career Academy	Mary Hagemann	mhagemann@southeast.edu	ESU 18
Lincoln Public Schools	Barbara Miller	millerb@lps.org	ESU 18
Malcolm	Maddie Von Seggern	maddie.vonseggern@mps148.org	ESU 6
Malcolm	Kelly Frank	kelly.frank@mps148.org	ESU 6
Milford	Sean Nutzman	sean.nutzman@milfordps.org	ESU 6
Millard West Education Academy	Ali Bragg	aabragg@mpsomaha.org	ESU 3
Millard West Education Academy	Lloyd Hoshaw	lmhoshaw@mpsomaha.org	ESU 3
Millard North Education Academy	Simon Rohde	serohde@mpsomaha.org	ESU 3
Millard North Education Academy	David Diehl	dmdiehl@mpsomaha.org	ESU 3
Omaha Benson	Hannah deFreese	hannah.deFreese@ops.org	ESU 19
Omaha Bryan	Raeanna Carlson	Raeanna.carlson@ops.org	ESU 19
Omaha Bryan	Antonio Gullie	Antonio.Gullie@ops.org	ESU 19
Omaha Buena Vista	Aaron McLaughlin	aaron.mclaughlin@ops.org	ESU 19
Omaha Buena Vista	Kelli Jahns	kelli.jahns@ops.org	ESU 19
Omaha Burke	Nadine Reyes	nadine.reyes@ops.org	ESU 19
Omaha Burke	Andrea Burton	andrea.burton@ops.org	ESU 19

Omaha Central	Deborah Corell	Deborah.Corell@ops.org	ESU 19
Omaha Central	Paul Nielson	paul.nielson@ops.org	ESU 19
Omaha North	Addison Krebs	Addison.Krebs@ops.org	ESU 19
Omaha North	Sydney McNeal	Sydney.McNeal@ops.org	ESU 19
Omaha Northwest	Miss McCoy	Miss.McCoy@ops.org	ESU 19
Omaha Northwest	Violet Brusnahan	violet.brusnahan@ops.org	ESU 19
Omaha South	Sam Bojanski	samuel.bojanski@ops.org	ESU 19
Omaha South	Samantha Koehler-Overton	samantha.koehler-overton@ops.org	ESU 19
Omaha South	Rachel Haskett	rachel.haskett@ops.org	ESU 19
Omaha Westview	Sophia Cooper	ecoopes953@ops.org	ESU 19
Omaha Westview	Lynn Wray	Lynn.Wray@ops.org	ESU 19
Omaha Public Schools	Jane Luethge	jane.luethge@ops.org	ESU 19
Papillion LaVista	Joe Pilakowski	joe.pilakowski@plcschools.org	ESU 3
Papillion LaVista South	Karlie Hermsen	karlie.hermsen@plcschools.org	ESU 3
Pathways 2 Tomorrow	Kristi Arlt	karlt@esu2.org	ESU 2
Plainview	Ronita Jacobsen	rjacobsen@plainviewschools.org	ESU 8
Ralston	Rebecca Dunn	Rebecca_dunn@ralstonschools.org	ESU 3
Sandy Creek	Jenni Stengel	jenni.stengel@sandycreek.us	ESU 9
Scottsbluff	Anne Schmall	aschmall@sbps.net	ESU 13
Seward	Beth Seegebarth	beth.seegebarth@sewardschools.org	ESU 6
Shickley	Shandi Bettasso	shandi.bettasso@longhornpower.org	ESU 6
Silver Lake	Morgan Henkel	morganhenkel@silverlakemustangs.org	ESU 9
South Sioux City	Shawn Carlson	Shawn.Carlson@ssccards.org	ESU 1
South Sioux City	Ashley Jorgensen	ashley.jorgensen@ssccards.org	ESU 1
Superior	Sara Fuller	sfuller@superiorwildcats.org	ESU 9
Sutton	Zach Parrish	zparrish@spsne.org	ESU 9
Wakefield	Ann Knust	aknust@wakefieldschools.org	ESU 1
Wakefield	Alejandra Aguirre	alaguirre@wakefieldschools.org	ESU 1
Waverly	Cass Didier	cass.didier@district145.org	ESU 6
Westside	Angela Mosier	mosier.angela@westside66.net	ESU 3
Wilber-Clatonia	Larry Vertovsky	larry.vetrovsky@wilberclatonia.org	ESU 6
York	Angie Kroger	angie.kroger@yorkdukes.org	ESU 6

NEBRASKA EDUCATORS RISING

Mission: To inspire and grow current and rising educators to become community leaders and advocates for high quality education.

Vision: To eliminate the teacher shortage by reimagining educator pathways.

Core Values: Community, Leadership, Service, Optimism, Excellence.



CONFERENCES

Chapter Officer Leadership Training
September 8, 2025 | Virtual

Fall Leadership Conference
October 15, 2025 | Omaha, NE
UNO Milo Bail Student Center

State Leadership Conference
February 23-24, 2026 | Kearney, NE
Younes Conference Center South

National Conference
June 20-23, 2026 | Portland, OR

AWARDS

Member

- Member of the Month
- Member of the Year
- Spark First Year Members Award
- Trailblazer Membership Award
- Education & Training Achievement Awards
 - » Rising Concentrators
 - » Concentrators

Chapter

- Chapter of the Month
- Blue & White Affiliation Awards
- Community Literacy Impact Award
- Feed Nebraska
- Chapter Award
- Statewide Community Service Project
- Membership Milestone Awards

Adult

- Administrator of the Year
- Outstanding Alumni

COMPETITIVE EVENTS

State & Nationals Competitions

- Children's Literature – K-3 (individual/dual)
- Children's Literature – K-3 Spanish (individual/dual)
- Children's Literature – Pre-K (individual/dual)
- Children's Literature – Pre-K Spanish (individual/dual)
- Creative Lecture
- Educators Rising Leadership Award (Varsity only)
- Educators Rising Moment
- Educators Rising Moment Spanish
- Ethical Dilemma (team)
- Exploring Education Administration Careers
- Exploring Non-Core Subject Teaching Careers
- Exploring Support Services Careers
- Inside Our Schools Presentation (team)
- Inside Our Schools Presentation Spanish (team)
- Job Interview
- Researching Learning Challenges (team)
- Lesson Planning and Delivery – Arts
- Lesson Planning and Delivery – Career and Technical Education
- Lesson Planning and Delivery – Humanities
- Lesson Planning and Delivery – STEM
- Lesson Planning and Delivery – Spanish
- Outstanding Chapter (team)
- Public Service Announcement – Teacher Recruitment (team)
- Public Speaking

State & Nationals Contests

- Interactive Bulletin Board (individual/dual)
- Project Visualize – Service Project (individual/dual)
- Teacher Created Materials (individual/dual)

LifeSmarts Knowledge Bowl

- State Level Team Event

Education & Training Challenge Tests

- State Level Individual Events

EVENTS & RESOURCES

Educators Rising Week

February 2-6, 2026

Celebrate members and grow awareness of Educators Rising.

Educators Rising National Signing Day

May 5, 2026

Celebrate the graduating high school seniors choosing to pursue a postsecondary degree in education.

Beginning to Teach Micro-Credentials

Performance-based assessments that allow rising educators to showcase their growing skills.

- Lesson Design
- Effective Classroom Leadership
- Collaboration
- Formative Assessment
- Learner Engagement

Additional EdRising Resources

- Educator of Excellence Podcast
- Get Inspired Videos
- National Board Certified Teachers in Action Videos
- Get Prepared Current Topic Articles
- Kappan Magazine Student Edition

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Chapter Officer Team

Election process varies according to local chapter.

SLC Content Creators

State level leadership opportunity; application process and selection occurs in December/January.

State Officer Team

Election process happens prior to and at the State Leadership Conference.

- President
- Vice President of Development
- Vice President of Membership
- Vice President of Public Relations

National Educators Rising Ambassadors

Application process and selection occurs in the fall.

National Student Officers

Election process happens virtually prior to the National Conference.

- President
- Vice President of Communications
- Vice President of Engagement
- Vice President of Service

TEACHER LEADER OPPORTUNITIES

State & National Webinars
RISE Teacher Leader Award
Teacher Leader of the Year

WWW.EDRISINGNEB.ORG | WWW.EDUCATORSRISING.ORG

STAY CONNECTED WITH EDUCATORS RISING



@edrising_ne
@educatorsrising



Educators Rising Nebraska
Educators Rising

COMMUNICATIONS

- Education and Training Listserv
- Nebraska Chapter Family Email Update
- National Teacher Leader Ledger

CONTACT US

Chelsey Greene, State Advisor
chelsey.greene@nebraska.gov
(531) 207-3104

Conferences

There are a variety of conferences and events available for chapters, members, and teacher leaders to attend at the state level in addition to the National Conference hosted annually each summer. Learn more about each conference and event below to determine if your chapter would benefit from attending.

[COLA \(Chapter Officer Leadership Academy\)](#)

When: early September

Where: hosted virtually; all materials available to chapters to utilize any time after the live event

Length: 9:30am-12:30pm – live & synchronous | 12:30-3:00pm – chapter work time

Registration Cost: free

Who Should Attend: chapter officers, chapter leaders – attendees do not have to have leadership positions, but programming is designed for members who will be leading at the local level

Event Goals: Provide leadership development for chapter leaders. Offer chapters the opportunity to plan their year. Share the State Officers' goals & Program of Work for the year.

[FLC \(Fall Leadership Conference\)](#)

When: Wednesday in October

Where: UNO Milo Bail Student Center in Omaha

Length: 9:00am-3:00pm

Registration Cost: \$25/person (*includes lunch*)

Who Should Attend: all members

Event Goals: Focus on member & chapter leadership development & Educators Rising member development. Provide opportunities for relationship building between members, members & state officers, & teacher leaders. Expose members to post-secondary teacher preparation programs in Nebraska. Offer professional development for Teacher Leaders.

[Future Educator Summit](#)

This event will not be offered in 2025-26.

When: Wednesday in October or November

Where: Nebraska Educator Preparation Institution

Length: 9:00am-3:00pm

Registration Cost: \$25/person

Who Should Attend: all affiliated members

Event Goals: Provide relevant, real-world topics & trends in education for high school students. Expose members to a post-secondary teacher preparation program in Nebraska. Provide Educators Rising content & member development. Connect members with current & aspiring educators. Offer networking/collaboration for Teacher Leaders. Provide a joint-CTSO conference experience with Nebraska FCCLA.

[State Leadership Conference \(SLC\)](#)

When: Monday & Tuesday in late February

Where: Younes South Conference Center in Kearney

Length: Monday from 10:00am-7:00pm, with optional evening activity; Tuesday from 8:30am-4:00pm

Registration Cost: Competitors - \$85/person | Non-Competitors - \$75/person (*rates include 2 meals*)

Who Should Attend: all affiliated members

Event Goals: Deliver high-energy, high-engagement sessions for members. Provide Educators Rising content & member development. Provide informal member networking & relationship-building opportunities. Connect members with current & aspiring educators. Provide relevant, real-world topics & trends in education for high school students. Offer community service project and/or community engagement activity. Provide competitive event opportunities for members to qualify for nationals. Recognize chapters, members, teacher leaders, & supporters for their work & dedication throughout the year. Elect State Officers. Offer competition opportunities outside of national events (Knowledge Bowl, Challenge Tests, etc.). Expose members to post-secondary teacher preparation programs. Expose members to education-related professional organizations.

[National Conference](#)

When: mid to late June

Where: moves between various US cities

Length: 4-day event, not including travel days

Registration Cost: ~\$315/person (*rate include 2 meals*)

Who Should Attend: national competitors, affiliated members

Event Goals: The event brings together the nation's top middle and high school rising educators to compete, showcase talent, connect, and celebrate a shared passion for teaching. Attendees will have the opportunity to compete for national recognition, learn from leading education professionals through breakout sessions, and connect with colleges, universities, and education associations at the College & Innovation Fair.

Awards

There are numerous opportunities for chapters, members, teacher leaders, and adults to be recognized for their involvement in Educators Rising. Awards have varying application criteria and timelines, so refer to the specific award applications for all details. Teacher leaders should leverage chapter officers and active members to complete award applications. Award applications are due annually on January 31 (unless otherwise stated) and recognition is awarded during the State Leadership Conference (unless otherwise stated). Review the [Nebraska Educators Rising Awards & Recognition Guide](#) for more information about all of the recognition opportunities available!

Competitive Events

Educators Rising national competitive events are performance-based events in which aspiring teachers demonstrate their knowledge, skills, and leadership in education. With a blend of individual and team events, competitions are authentic, engaging opportunities for rising educators to stretch their creativity, commitment, and professionalism. Competitive events are offered in two divisions: JV (grades 9-10) and Varsity (grades 11-12).

There are two types of competitive events: Competitions and Contests. The biggest difference between these two types is how students are recognized. In Competitions, students receive a final score and a place amongst all competitors. In Contests, students receive a ribbon rating based on a percentage of points they earn from the total available: White ribbon (90-93%), Red ribbon (94-97%), and Blue ribbon (98-100%).

Competitive Events begin at the state-level with the state competition at the State Leadership Conference. From there, students can qualify to compete at the National Conference, based on the requirements of the national and state association. All Nebraska Competitive Event policies can be found in the [Nebraska Educators Rising Policy Handbook – 03. Competitive Events](#).

Competitive Events Timeline

This is a suggested timeline to help teacher leaders manage competitive events.

September/October: introduce competitive event opportunities members; members identify potential event(s) to compete in

October/November/December: members work on competitive events

January: teacher leaders register members for competitive events through SLC registration; set completion deadline for competitors (recommended end of January)

February: competitive event pre-scored materials must be submitted in mid-February; state competition takes place at SLC

March: use feedback & comments from SLC to update & improve competitive events for national competition; teacher leaders work with members to register for & upload event materials for national competition

April: teacher leaders review national competitor list for accuracy & completeness

April/May/June: members practice and review event(s) for national competition

Competitive Event Checklist for Teacher Leaders

Preparation & Information Sharing

Make sure that you have printed the current year's competitive event guidelines/rubrics and reviewed the [Nebraska Competitive Event Policies](#). Never distribute last year's materials or use them in any decision making.

New teacher leaders may want to be selective and only attempt a few events the first year unless they have some great members that will assist. Teacher leaders are encouraged to connect with other teacher leaders who have had success in competitive events – there are many individuals in the state willing to assist!

Consider integrating the competitive events into Education & Training course. Check out the [Nebraska HSE Course Standards & Educators Rising Competitive Events Alignment Guide](#) for more information about which competitive events are aligned to which course standards and indicators.

Share all the competitive event opportunities with members so they can decide which event(s) is best for them. These [Competition Overview slides](#) have the most information about events in a

shareable/presentable format. The [Nebraska Educators Rising Competitive Events Summary](#) provides a snapshot of event eligibility, description, and components evaluated pre-scored and on-site.

Consider inviting a member from a nearby chapter or a State Officer who has competed in an event to come share their experience.

Ensure members have access to the following resources:

- [Competitive Event Guidelines & Rubrics](#) (*only available in membership Portal*)
- [Nebraska Competitive Event Policies](#)

Eligibility & Affiliation

To avoid disqualification, verify that students are eligible for the event they have chosen. Assist members in selecting events appropriate for their ability, age, and interests. Emphasize that this is a learning experience and an opportunity for growth.

Confirm that membership dues have been submitted and paid by the deadlines.

- Affiliation Deadline: January 15
- Affiliation Payment Deadline: February 15 (payment received by nationals)

Deadlines

Ensure that you're familiar with the state and national deadlines below to guarantee member eligibility to compete.

- January 28 – SLC Registration closes at 6pm CST
- February 13 – SLC Pre-Scored Competitive Event Materials must be submitted by 5pm CST
- February 23-24 – State Leadership Conference (SLC) in Kearney
- April 6 – National Competition applications due
- April 9-16 – Teacher Leaders review National Competitor list
 - *Carefully check that your participants are on the correct team, level, and in the correct event.*
- June 20-23 – National Conference in Portland, OR

Project Completion

After members have completed their projects, thoroughly review all requirements with them to ensure adherence to guidelines. If advancing, encourage members to utilize feedback to improve.

Event Schedule Confirmation

Verify your participant(s)' scheduled competition time(s) prior to SLC and the National Conference. Carefully check that your participants are on the correct team, level, and in the correct event.

Additional Competitive Event Tips for Teacher Leaders

- Encourage regular communication with your members, addressing any questions or concerns they may have about their competitive event participation.
- Provide guidance on time management to help members meet deadlines and adequately prepare for their events.
- Support members in preparing their presentations, displays, portfolios, or projects by offering constructive feedback and resources.
- Familiarize yourself with the evaluation criteria for your members' chosen competitive event(s) to help them focus on critical areas.
- Ensure that any required materials or equipment for the event presentation are readily available and in good working condition.
- Promote a positive and supportive atmosphere within your Educators Rising chapter to motivate and inspire members in their competitive event journey.

- ❑ Stay informed about any updates or changes related to competitive event through the *Teacher Leader Ledger* and/or Nebraska Education & Training listserv.
- ❑ Consider organizing mock presentations or peer reviews to help members gain confidence and improve their performance.
- ❑ Encourage members to embrace the learning experience and personal growth opportunities that competitive events offer, regardless of the competition outcome.

Nebraska Competitive Event Opportunities

In addition to the national competitive events, there are two state-level competitive event opportunities for members as part of the State Leadership Conference: LifeSmarts Knowledge Bowl and Education & Training Challenge Tests.

Education & Training Challenge Tests

These academic knowledge tests cover a wide range of subjects aligned with state Education & Training standards, allowing participants to showcase the skills and knowledge gained from their Education & Training courses and involvement in Educators Rising. The Education & Training Challenge Tests are designed to evaluate participants' abilities through a rigorous exam, with test questions developed from current course standards and a variety of curricular resources, so participants are tested on relevant and up-to-date information.

Education & Training Challenge tests are offered at the following levels:

- JV (grades 9-10)
- Varsity (grades 11-12)

Tests are offered in the following topic areas for both the Junior and Senior levels:

- Education & Training I (aligned to Teaching as a Profession)
- Education & Training II (aligned to Best Practices in Education & Training)
- Education & Training III (aligned to Education & Training Practicum)
- Education & Training Terminology
- Child Development
- Educators Rising Knowledge
- Lifespan Development
- Parliamentary Procedure Knowledge

Each test is comprised of 25 questions, multiple choice or true/false. There is a 30-minute time limit to complete the test.

[Education & Training Challenge Test Guidelines, Rules, and Policies](#)

Members participating in Education & Training Challenge Tests must be affiliated members and be registered to attend the State Leadership Conference.

Education & Training Challenge Tests are individual events and must be completed by the individual student without any outside assistance or use of resources.

Members may compete in as many Education & Training Challenge Tests as they wish.

Chapters can have as many entries in Education & Training Challenge Tests as they wish.

Tests are taken online via the AnswerWrite system prior to the State Leadership Conference.

Tests must be taken at school and proctored.

Tests must be proctored by the chapter teacher leader or another adult designated by the chapter teacher leader.

All Education & Training Challenge Test information will be communicated directly with chapter teacher leaders.

Education & Training Challenge Test Fees

Each participant pays a fee to help cover expenses such as AnswerWrite expenses, certificates, and test development. Education & Training Challenge Test fees are nonrefundable after the State Leadership Conference registration deadline.

- \$5 per test

LifeSmarts Knowledge Bowl

LifeSmarts Knowledge Bowl is a team competition that tests members' knowledge in six content areas:

- Personal Finance
- Consumer Rights & Responsibilities
- Technology & Workforce Preparation
- Health & Safety
- Environment
- Educators Rising Knowledge

Round 1: Teams will collaboratively take a 50-question quiz during the testing window, in February before SLC.

Round 2: The top 12 teams will compete in the head-to-head competition at SLC.

LifeSmarts Knowledge Bowl Guidelines, Rules, and Policies

- Members participating in LifeSmarts Knowledge Bowl must be affiliated members and be registered to attend the State Leadership Conference.
- Teams must be comprised of five (5) Educators Rising members from the same chapter. Teams with less than five (5) members are ineligible to compete.
- Teams may be mixed in grade levels.
- Chapters may register up to two (2) teams.
- All LifeSmarts Knowledge Bowl information will be communicated directly with chapter teacher leaders.

Round 1: Qualifying Quiz

Teams will collaboratively take a 50-question quiz during the testing window. Teams will have 30 minutes to complete the quiz.

Round 2: Head-to-Head Competition

The top 12 teams will compete in head-to-head matches at SLC. The Head-to-Head Competition will be structured in a double-elimination bracket, so each team will compete in at least two (2) matches.

LifeSmarts Knowledge Bowl Fees

There are no fees for participation in this event.

Events & Resources

Educators Rising Week | February 2-6, 2026

February is Career and Technical Education Month, a public awareness campaign designed to celebrate the value of CTE and the achievements and accomplishments of CTE programs across the country. As a CTSO, Educators Rising is proud to be supporting students as they explore a career in education! Educators Rising Week is centered around celebrating our members and broadening awareness of the resources and content that Educators Rising offers.

There are a variety of resources available from the national and state associations to help chapters celebrate Educators Rising Week. Check out the [national resources in the membership portal](#) and the [Nebraska resources on the state website](#).

National Signing Day Resources | May 5, 2026

Celebrate the graduating high school seniors choosing to pursue a postsecondary degree in education. Resources are available for teacher leaders from the national association in the [membership portal](#).

Educators Rising National Honor Society

The Educators Rising Honor Society is a distinction that recognizes the academic accomplishments of our student members. This honor serves to elevate the image of teaching by highlighting high-achieving students who are dedicated to a career path in education. [Learn more about this opportunity in the membership portal](#).

To qualify for the Educators Rising Honor Society students must:

- Be a high school junior or senior
- Have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.50 on a 4.0 scale
- Be an Active-level, national dues-paying member of Educators Rising
- Pay a \$5 application fee

Beginning to Teach Micro-Credentials

Developed in partnership with Digital Promise, Educators Rising offers a set of “Beginning to Teach” micro-credentials. Mapped to the Educators Rising Standards, the Educators Rising micro-credentials (or digital badges) are performance-based assessments that provide students with opportunities to demonstrate their competencies on the road to great teaching. To earn micro-credentials, students upload their portfolios and have them scored by expert educators. Passing scores help rising educators boost their résumés and showcase their skills. Explore each of the micro-credentials on the [Digital Promise website](#).

- **Lesson Design:** The rising educator analyzes the underlying strategies and active practices of effective lesson design that skilled educators implement and sustain.
- **Effective Classroom Leadership:** The rising educator learns how to lead an effective classroom by using high-leverage classroom management practices including establishing clear expectations, providing consistent feedback, and developing strong teacher-student relationships for a structured and supportive classroom.
- **Collaboration:** The rising educator strategically and successfully seeks out, synthesizes, and incorporates relevant ideas from other educators into his/her own instructional practice.
- **Formative Assessment:** The rising educator finds ways to spur student growth through the creative, knowledgeable usage of formative assessment strategies.
- **Learner Engagement:** The rising educator strategically hooks and sustains learners’ engagement throughout a learning experience.

Each micro-credential submission requires an estimated 5-15 hours of work, and rising educators are encouraged to earn them all. Upon completion of each micro-credential, students earn a digital badge to showcase on their professional profiles. For each micro-credential, you'll find submission criteria, a research base, recommended resources for preparing a submission, and a scoring rubric.

Students submit digital portfolios to demonstrate mastery of each of the five competencies. Submissions are reviewed by expert educators, ensuring that achieving a micro-credential represents a meaningful early step on a rising educator's path to accomplished teaching. Educators Rising is working with colleges, scholarship committees, employers, and other evaluators to recognize and value micro-credential achievement.

Chapter Resources

- [Educator of Excellence Podcast](#)
- [Get Inspired Videos](#) | [Student Voices Videos](#)
- [National Board-Certified Teachers in Action Videos](#)
- [Teaching Channel Videos](#)
- [Get Prepared Current Topic Articles](#)
- [Kappan Magazine Student Edition](#)

Leadership Opportunities

Chapter Officer Team

Chapters are encouraged to select members to serve in a leadership role at the local level. The number of officers, officer positions, etc. are completely up to the discretion of the local teacher leader.

SLC Content Creators

This role offers a unique opportunity for members to develop skills in content creation, social media management, and digital marketing while contributing to a dynamic and creative team. Ideal candidates are members with a passion for storytelling, creativity, and an understanding of various content formats. Content Creators will be responsible for producing engaging and high-quality social media content tailored to members. In exchange for their time, they receive a discounted registration rate and a free conference t-shirt. The application for SLC Content Creators will open in December and close in January. Additional information about SLC Content Creators can be found on the [SLC page](#) of the Nebraska EdRising website.

State Officer Team

The Nebraska Educators Rising State Officer team is composed of four individuals who serve in the following offices: President, Vice President of Development, Vice President of Membership, and Vice President of Public Relations. A state officer's year is one of exciting challenges, countless opportunities and life-long friendships. Holding a State Office comes with responsibilities and requires a time commitment, but it's an experience that will help members grow their leadership and personal skills!

Before running to serve on the State Officer Team, the teacher leader and interested member(s) should review the [State Officer Handbook](#) for more information on each officer's responsibilities, team responsibilities, and expectations for service. Additional information about running for office can be found on the [Leadership Opportunities page](#) of the Nebraska EdRising website.

National Ambassadors

The Educators Rising Ambassador Program is an opportunity for star students to amplify their voices in critical national conversations about teaching and learning. Ambassadors contribute their opinions and experiences on social media and are leaders among their peers.

The Educators Rising Ambassador Program allows members to add leadership experience to college applications or résumés, have their voice heard on a national level, and network virtually with other rising educators and teachers from across the country. Additional information about this opportunity can be found on the [National Ambassadors page](#) in the membership portal.

National Student Officers

National student officers are external ambassadors and internal thought leaders who serve in an advisory capacity to the CEO and the Board of Directors. They engage in critical education conversations at the national level to provide a student perspective; serve as Educators Rising representatives at local, state, and national functions; and ensure that Educators Rising members have a voice in program development. These rising educators exemplify the finest qualities of our national network and of the future of the teaching profession. Additional information about this opportunity can be found on the [National Student Officers page](#) in the membership portal.

Teacher Leader Opportunities

National Webinars

To assist teacher leaders in common processes they will need to use throughout the year, national staff host helpful webinars. To attend live, watch for the announcements via the *Teacher Leader Ledger* email newsletter. Recorded webinars will be linked for viewing after the live event in the membership portal. [View the 2024-2025 Teacher Leader Training Webinars.](#)

State Webinars

Teacher Leaders are invited to participate in Nebraska Educators Rising webinars, meant to provide assistance and information on timely topics. Teacher leaders are encouraged to ask questions and share their best practices. These webinars are designed for new and experienced advisers alike, so please join us!

- Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at 4:15-4:45pm CDT | Welcome Back!
- Tuesday, December 2, 2025 at 4:15-4:45pm CST | SLC Details + Competitive Events
- Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 4:15-4:45pm CST | SLC Registration + Recognition
- Thursday, February 5, 2026 at 4:15-4:45pm CST | Submitting Competitive Event Materials
- Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 4:30-5:30pm CST | Preparing for Nationals
- Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 4:15-4:45pm CDT | Reviewing National Competitors

Check out past webinars on the [Nebraska Educators Rising YouTube Channel!](#)

Communications

Education & Training Listserv: The listserv is where pertinent information is shared regarding upcoming events, policy changes, resources, etc. It's also an avenue for teacher leaders to reach out for resources or share materials or information that would be helpful to others. To ensure you are on the listserv, reach out to Miranda Bright at miranda.bright@nebraska.gov.

Nebraska Chapter Family Email Update: This monthly email is developed and shared by the State Officers. They identify relevant and timely information to share with the teacher leaders in their assigned chapter family groups.

National Teacher Leader Ledger: This email publication is sent directly to teacher leaders with pertinent information and updates from the national organization.

Resources for Teacher Leaders

- [Teacher Leader Checklist](#): *Use this checklist to guide you through the essential steps for a successful start to the year, whether you are a new or returning teacher leader.*
- [Teacher Leader Resources](#): *Check out this document with a sample yearly schedule, project ideas, and more!*
- [Educators Rising Letter to Guardians](#): *This letter can be used to share information with parents/guardians about Educators Rising.*
- [CTSO Medical Release/Personal Conduct Agreement Form](#): *This form should be completed and teacher leaders should have possession of it for all events that include travel and/or time away from the school.*
- [2025-26 Teacher Leader Orientation](#)
- [Nebraska Educators Rising Competitive Events Summary](#)
- [Nebraska Educators Rising Awards & Recognition Guide](#)
- [Nebraska HSE Standards & Educators Rising Competitive Events Alignment Guide](#)

Additional information and resources can be found on the [Chapter Management page](#) of the Nebraska EdRising website, including the Calendar of Events, theme logo, and flowchart for the current year.

Acronyms & Abbreviations

COLA - Chapter Officer Leadership Academy

CTE - Career and Technical Education

CTSO - Career and Technical Student Organization

EdRising - Educators Rising

FLC - Fall Leadership Conference

GYO - Grow Your Own

HSE - Human Sciences and Education

PDK - Phi Delta Kappa

PoS - Program of Study

SLC - State Leadership Conference

WBL - Work-Based Learning