



NCEDA FOUNDATION 5th ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER

NCEDA 2026 Fall Conference • October 19–20 • Asheville, NC

For more than half a century, the North Carolina Economic Development Association (NCEDA) and its over 1,000 members have led successful efforts to promote North Carolina as an ideal destination for business investment, serving as the voice for North Carolina's economic development community by providing professional development, networking opportunities, and advocacy to secure the state's economic future.

The NCEDA Foundation supports the advancement of North Carolina's economic development profession by funding professional development, research, and educational programs—especially for underserved, distressed, and rural communities and practitioners across the state.

During NCEDA's 2026 Fall Conference in Asheville, the NCEDA Foundation will host its 5th Annual Silent Auction to benefit the Foundation's areas of work.

AREAS OF WORK



SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPERS

The Foundation expands access to professional development by offering scholarships—prioritizing underrepresented individuals and those serving underserved or distressed areas. Scholarships are available statewide for a variety of professional development opportunities.

Projected Three-Year Outcomes

- Continue to award at least 25 scholarships investing up to \$40,000 each year
- Scholarship recipients will represent a broad range of geographic, socioeconomic, and demographic backgrounds



AWARENESS & TRAINING PROGRAMS

The Foundation works to educate community and elected leaders across North Carolina about the purpose, practices, and needs of economic development programs and practitioners. It also provides NCEDA Fellows from the state's higher education institutions with internship opportunities at economic development organizations, with a focus on placements in rural and underserved areas.

Projected Three-Year Outcomes

- Partner with ten or more universities, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HCBUs)
- Fund up to 12 community and elected leader education sessions
- Fund up to 12 Fellowships



RESEARCH PROGRAMS

The Foundation supports efforts to review best practices in economic development programs and enhance North Carolina's overall competitiveness. It works to inform state-level economic development policy and produce resources that aid in shaping local city and county strategies. Additionally, the Foundation raises awareness of emerging trends that impact economic development across the state.

Projected Three-Year Outcomes

- Fund three research projects



NCEDA Foundation 5th Annual Silent Auction Donation Form

In 2020, the North Carolina Economic Development Association (NCEDA) established the NCEDA Foundation to build on the association's mission and successes with new and expanded programs and sources of funding.

The NCEDA Foundation will hold its 5th Annual Silent Auction during the 2026 NCEDA Fall Conference scheduled for **October 19–20 in Asheville**. Proceeds will benefit professional development scholarships for economic developers, awareness & training programs, and research programs.

Your silent auction donation will help us continue with our professional advancement efforts. Thank you for your generosity!

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

YOUR ORGANIZATION: _____

EMAIL: _____

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ITEM: _____

ESTIMATED VALUE OF ITEM (*value should be no less than \$100*): _____

DONATING BUSINESS: (*if different from your organization listed above*) _____

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

DONATING BUSINESS WEBSITE: _____

Please submit completed form and photo of donated item(s) to blair@nceda.org by **Friday, October 9**.

Bring donated items to the Fall Conference and deliver to the NCEDA registration desk.

If you are unable to attend the conference and need to mail an item,
or have any questions, contact Blair Kennedy (888.246.2332 / blair@nceda.org).

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