



About NCEDA

With over 1,000 members, NCEDA supports North Carolina's economic development through professional development, networking, and advocacy, promoting the state as a premier destination for new businesses, jobs, and investment for 60 years. NCEDA promotes professionalism and results in economic development in many ways:

- Provides a broad range of learning, networking and leadership opportunities.
- Advocates for effective economic development-related laws, policies and strategies through policy action by the legislative and executive branches.
- Creates opportunities for collaboration among economic developers at the state, regional and local levels, and their public and private allies and partners.
- Enhances public understanding and support for economic development programs, strategies and organizations.
- Facilitates networking and mentoring opportunities that grow intellectual capital and ensure the long-term vibrancy of North Carolina's economic development community.

Our Members

NCEDA members include local, regional and state economic development professionals and their public partners and private allies – educators, public service providers, architects, real estate professionals, utility representatives, leaders in the financial industry and others who share the common vision of securing economic opportunities for every North Carolina community.

“

I didn't just join an organization; I joined a family. The lifelong connections I've made through NCEDA are invaluable.”

JULIE PRUETT
NCEDA Member

Questions?

Contact Liz Dobbins-Smith at
888.246.2332 or liz@nceda.org

Empowering North Carolina's Economic Future through Professional Development, Networking, & Advocacy

For economic development professionals, success starts with relevant knowledge, actionable intelligence, and up-to-date skills. Amid today's fast-changing economy and business landscape, you can ensure your ongoing competitiveness by becoming an active member of North Carolina's leading statewide association for economic developers and their allies.

How to Join

New Allied Membership – \$450 (\$425 dues plus \$25 application)

For professionals who support economic development, including utilities, railroads, engineering and construction firms, architects, attorneys, consultants, and other allied partners

New Practitioner Membership – \$350 (\$325 dues plus \$25 application)

For professionals employed in local, regional, or state economic development organizations, as well as higher education institutions that support economic development efforts

Student Membership – \$25

For full-time undergrad/graduate students interested in economic development

Retiree Membership – \$125

For individuals who are fully retired from professional employment

Membership Benefits

Professional Development & Networking

NCEDA conferences and events connect members to exchange ideas and examine issues:

- **Conferences** – Three annual conferences offer workshops, panel discussions and presentations on critical issues economic developers face.
- **Webinars** – Professional development webinars and seminars provide intensive sessions on specific topics.
- **Networking Luncheons** – Luncheons offer perspectives on critical issues and the opportunity to engage business and government leaders.
- **Emerging Executives Initiative** – The Emerging Executives Initiative engages members newer to the North Carolina economic development community with customized programming and community service opportunities.
- **Mentorship Program** – Our mentorship program connects members, fostering relationships, guidance, and growth across North Carolina's economic development community.

Advocacy & Public Policy

With economic developers statewide, help shape legislative action and public policies that sharpen North Carolina's global competitive edge. NCEDA advocates for policies, initiatives and programs that promote job creation, encourage investment and economic prosperity throughout the state. We keep you informed about important issues impacting the economic development community.

Research

The NCEDA research committee supports research projects that advance the economic development profession and inform public policy with regular blog posts about important topics impacting the economic development field, including the 2022 Local Incentives Study and the 2025 Salary Survey.

Member Recognition

NCEDA supports the advancement of outstanding economic development practitioners by annually honoring members with several awards including the North Carolina Economic Developer of the Year, the North Carolina Emerging Leader of the Year, Deal of the Year, and Innovator of the Year.

NCEDA Foundation

Created in 2020, the NCEDA Foundation advances economic development by funding professional development activities, research, and education programs, especially for underserved, distressed, and rural counties and economic developers across North Carolina. The foundation offers numerous scholarships annually, supports student Fellows who gain valuable experience and expand their networks while working with economic development organizations, and supports practitioners' career development.

Publications & Resources

Stay informed and engaged as a member of North Carolina's economic development community:

- **E-News** – NCEDA's bi-monthly newsletter covers trends, legislative issues, career opportunities, and important news from around the state.
- **NCEDA Website** – NCEDA's website offers information and links, resources, and professional development opportunities.
- **NCEDA Membership Directory** – This searchable listing of economic development professionals and allies provides members with access to a vital resource: each other.

Contact Us!

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