

# THE ROLE OF A DIRECTOR

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## DIRECTOR TIME COMMITMENT

Being a board member requires a significant time commitment. On average, a board member can be expected to spend 6-8 hours per week on board business. This time includes training, participation in industry meetings, keeping up-to-date on electric utility trends, and preparing for regular Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (WHE) and WH Holding board meetings. Board members may also attend industry events and conferences necessitating 10-15 days of travel per year.

Board Meetings are typically held the second Tuesday of each month depending on other industry meetings. Meetings begin at 8:30 a.m. and can last until 5 p.m. Directors are paid a per diem on a per meeting basis. Board fees vary based on the length of meeting.

The Board is supplied with an iPad and a whe.org email address. E-mail and the board portal is essential for the sharing of between-meeting information from management.

## DIRECTOR ORIENTATION AND EDUCATION

All new directors are required to participate in an orientation program, which is generally conducted within the first month after the annual meeting at which new directors are elected. The orientation includes:

1. The introduction of new directors to the management team,
2. Presentations by management designed to familiarize new directors with the electric and Holding businesses, and
3. A tour of the WHE headquarters.

## DIRECTOR CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Directors are encouraged to participate in NRECA's Director Certificate Program. This program is specifically designed to help electric cooperative directors at every stage of their service. It will help you understand your roles and responsibilities, stay up-to-date on the key issues and trends in the industry and prepare to meet the challenges facing electric cooperatives now and in the future. NRECA offers director education courses throughout the year in conjunction with a variety of NRECA educational conferences and events across the country, in partnership with statewide associations and onsite at individual cooperatives.

The Director Certificate Programs are offered in three parts, taken in progression from fundamental to advanced:

1. The Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate
2. The Board Leadership Certificate
3. Director Gold Credential

