



Director Certification Program 2025

(A four-phase program with Phases 3 & 4 offered in 2025)

DCP is a four-phase program with two phases offered each year. It is conducted annually to help new directors deal with the challenges they face as decision makers. The program is designed to accelerate the process by which directors become active, effective board members. For the new director, training is very important to establish an understanding of the responsibilities of the position.

Through DCP, directors will gain the skills necessary to become a contributing member of the board and fulfill their duty to access the information needed to make sound business decisions.

Upon completion of all four phases, achievement will be recorded by the Council and acknowledged with a certificate from CoBank and the Council.

PHASE 3: Tue, Jan. 7 from 11am to 8pm CT (registration checkin opens at 10:30am CT)

Includes Phase 3, lunch, evening reception, dinner, and evening speaker Adam Carriker. (Director Growth Forum participants will also attend the evening session)

PHASE 4: Tue, Jan. 7 from 5:30-8pm CT and W, Jan. 8 from 8am-12noon CT (please check in at the NCC registration desk when you arrive Tue evening. On Wed. morning, registration check-in opens at 7:30am CT)

Includes evening reception, dinner, evening speaker Adam Carriker, Phase 4 and lunch. (Director Growth Forum participants will also attend the Tues. evening session and lunch on Wed.)

LOCATION: Holiday Inn, Kearney

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Dec 24, 2024

Let your cooperative know you'd like to attend - they have the registration form

TOPICS COVERED

Phase 3

- Capitalizing a Cooperative
- Understanding and Using Financial Statements

Phase 4

- Board/Management Communication
- Board/Management Relationships
- Manager Appraisal

Special thanks to

CoBank

for sponsoring the evening reception and dinner

OBJECTIVES

- Provide a clear understanding of the board's roles/responsibilities and how these differ from those of the manager
- Develop a framework of successful cooperative planning/monitoring of results
- Provide an understanding of financial statements including their use in decision making
- Provide "hands on" experience in cooperative problem solving
- Allow directors to gain insights into other cooperatives through interaction with other participants

FACILITATORS



Dr. Keri Jacobs ... is Associate Professor of Ag & Applied Economics in the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources at the University of Missouri, holds the MFA Chair in Agribusiness, and is Executive Director of the Graduate Institute of Cooperative Leadership. She provides teaching, research and extension on cooperatives and focuses her research and extension efforts on financial and equity conditions of ag cooperatives and agribusiness consolidation.

Brook Stromer ... is a Vice President with CoBank's Regional Agribusiness Banking Group in the Omaha office. She has more than 20 years of lending experience, primarily serving farm supply and grain marketing cooperatives in the Midwest.



Amy Ryan ... is a Senior Compensation and HR Consultant with Foundations Consulting, the consulting arm of Farm Credit Foundations. She has spent her 25-year career working with ag-related organizations, helping to engage, develop, and reward employees. Amy likes to partner with others to tackle tough human resource challenges, facilitate strategic discussions, and often interjects humor in her approach. She holds a master's degree in Industrial Relations from the University of Minnesota and a BA in Communications and Psychology from University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point.

Co-op Panel ... Phase 4 will also include a panel featuring Neil Stedman, Chair of Frontier Cooperative's Board of Directors, and John McClelland, General Manager of Garden City Cooperative in Garden City, KS from 2003-2018. Neil and John will offer insights into manager/board interactions, what they have learned from their experiences, and answer questions from participants.

EVENING SPEAKER



The evening speaker will be Husker Football great Adam Carriker. Carriker was born in Hastings, NE before moving halfway across the country. He still aspired to be a blackshirt, and he fulfilled his dream. In his career, he was twice named first-team All-Big 12, leading the conference in sacks and winning the Big 12 Defensive Lineman of the Year award his senior season, along with several other awards including finishing with All-America honors, in addition to being named to the Big 12 Commissioner's Academic Honor Roll three times.

He's also been named to Nebraska's All-Century Team and has been inducted into the Nebraska Football Hall of Fame.

Carriker played 8 years in the NFL, winning Rookie of the Year with the Rams, before going on to great success in the business world. His current show, the Carriker Chronicles, aka the People's Show, has been viewed by millions. Carriker is married to his college sweetheart and they have 6 children.