

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

NRECA Board Leadership #928 | Jan. 17, 2026

The Cooperative Center | NDAREC headquarters | 3201 Nygren Drive NW | Mandan, N.D.



BOARD LEADERSHIP (BL) CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

To earn the certificate, directors must complete 10 credits from the 900-level courses. The BL courses are grouped according to eight specialty areas: grassroots, power supply, cooperative business model, governance, finance, communications, technology and risk management. Each course is one day unless otherwise noted.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Artificial intelligence (AI) has moved rapidly into the electric industry, including electric cooperatives, by accelerating a variety of functions such as the processing of vast amounts of meter data, automated functions that increase reliability and enhanced member satisfaction. This course will provide a foundational understanding of AI, its jargon, implications, applications and strategic importance. This will assist directors in engaging discussions about AI in their boardroom and the role this rapidly evolving technology has at their cooperative.

KEY TOPICS

- The basic principles and jargon of AI
- Impact of AI on the electric industry
- Risks and opportunities with AI
- Importance of data quality, cybersecurity and privacy in the implementation of AI

MEET THE INSTRUCTOR

Pat Mangan serves as NRECA's Senior Director of Governance Education. He's responsible for strategic planning and development of curricula and educational programs to meet the needs of electric cooperative directors. Pat's responsibilities also include the planning and development of NRECA's annual directors conference and serving as an instructor of governance courses.



Pat Mangan

Prior to joining NRECA, Pat was an instructional designer for SkyTel Corp and the American Red Cross. He is a member of the American Society of Association Executives holding the Certified Association Executive (CAE) certification since 2005. He holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from St. John Fisher College in Rochester, New York and a master's degree in educational media and instructional design from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

SCHEDULE FOR SATURDAY, JAN. 17

All times listed are Central Time.

8:30 a.m.	Hot breakfast buffet
9 a.m.	Artificial Intelligence and Electric Cooperatives
12 p.m.	Lunch
12:30 p.m.	Artificial Intelligence and Electric Cooperatives - continued
3:45 p.m.	Adjournment

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

To register for this NRECA board-governance program, please go to www.ndarec.com/ndarec-education-programs. The registration deadline is Jan. 2.

For NDAREC members with a 2026 prepaid education plan, there is no registration fee/person. For members who do not have a prepaid education plan, the registration fee is \$595/person. No advance payment is necessary; NDAREC will send an invoice for the registration fee (if applicable) following the program. The cost for breakfast, two refreshment breaks and lunch will be billed back to participating cooperatives.

CANCELLATIONS

If you need to cancel your registration, please notify Pamela Clark-Stein at pstein@ndarec.com 14 days in advance of the program. If notice is provided 14 days or more in advance, there is no cancellation fee. If notice is provided less than 14 days in advance, a cancellation fee of \$70/day will be charged. Please note: Substitutions are permitted at no extra charge if NDAREC is notified of the substitution prior to the program date.

NRECA'S CANCELLATION POLICY

NRECA charges a 50-percent cancellation fee if one of their courses is canceled 15 or fewer business days prior to the start of a scheduled course. Therefore, NDAREC reserves the right to cancel due to a lack of registrations.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

For your convenience, a block of sleeping rooms is reserved for Friday, Jan. 16, at the hotel listed below.

COMFORT INN & SUITES

1516 27th St. N, Mandan

To make your room reservation, call 701-204-6712.

For online reservations: [Rates & Available Rooms - Comfort Inn & Suites Mandan - Bismarck](#)

The block of sleeping rooms is reserved under "REC Board Leadership." The release date for the reserved block of rooms is Dec. 30.

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS AND OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS

Please notify Pamela at pstein@ndarec.com of any dietary restrictions such as food allergies, gluten-free options and other special accommodations needed. A minimum of 72 hours' advance notice is required.