

# New Member Orientation Trainings

## How to Be an Effective Legislator

NCSL offers an effective legislator training that highlights the most important points legislators need to know going into their first (or fiftieth!) session. We bring in seasoned legislators to provide real-life examples of why these tips are imperative for legislators to master.

## The Art of Legislative Negotiation

Traditional negotiation has centered on an oppositional, zero-sum game approach. But negotiation in the legislative realm is different in many ways, with multiple stakeholders, complex interests, and both policy and political considerations to balance. In this workshop, legislators will learn to identify their primary interests, and the interests of their negotiating partner, develop creative options to circumvent roadblocks, preserve relationships with their negotiating partners for future interactions and more. Participants will engage in negotiation simulations designed specifically for the legislative setting. The goal of this hands-on training is to develop the skills and creativity necessary to engage in successful negotiation practices that produce more optimal outcomes.

## Ethics in the Legislature

Many legislatures include ethics training in orientation programs, but this content is almost always focused on ethics laws and rules. While these are important, NCSL can take your ethics training to the next level with a “Values-Based Ethics” approach to this difficult topic.

## Public Speaking: Developing Dynamic Delivery

Public speaking is consistently cited as one of people’s great fears, yet legislators and legislative staff are often required to present crucial information to committees and other groups. This training will present concrete tips for taking your public speaking skill set to the next level, allowing participants to develop the confidence and capability to give good presentations that keep the audience engaged.

## Media Relations and Social Media Management

Prepares members for the media blitz they might encounter and helps them bulk up their social media muscle. This training provides practical tips and sound advice for legislators new to the spotlight, or for those who need a refresher course on critical skills and issues.

## Respectful Workplaces and Sexual Harassment Prevention

Prepares members for the media blitz they might encounter and helps them bulk up their social media muscle. This training provides practical tips and sound advice for legislators new to the spotlight, or for those who need a refresher course on critical skills and issues.

***Coordinators: If you’re planning a virtual orientation, we recommend this session for you:***

## Virtual Orientation: Engagement is the Key

In the COVID-19 era, much of our work has moved online. This reality requires a new way of thinking about participant engagement. You’ll gain a set of online best practices designed to increase the impact and efficacy of our online interactions.

*Each module is interactive, fast-paced, and runs approximately 60 minutes. Made to supplement your own orientation agendas, most modules can be in-person or virtual.*