IOWA INSTITUTE FOR COOPERATIVES
2515 University Blvd., Suite #104 • Ames, IA 50010 • (515) 292-2667 • info@iowainstitute.coop

2026-27 Directors Certification Program (DCP)

December 17-18, 2026

Digital Ag Innovation Center, 3700 University Blvd, Ames, IA

Director Certification Program

The Director Certification Program (DCP) will be held on December 17-18 at the Iowa State University Digital Ag Innovation Lab in Ames (3700 University Blvd, Ames, IA).

Structure

The Director Certification Program (DCP) is a 2-day, 3-phase program that covers critical fundamentals that directors must know and understand: 1) Cooperative Foundations, Principles and Governance; 2) Strategic Thinking and Setting Strategic Direction; and 3) Cooperative Financial Acumen. We strongly encourage directors to attend this certification program. It is critical that directors, at a minimum, understand legal duty of being on a board of directors.

Advanced Directors Program

DCP is a prerequisite to our Advanced Directors Program (ADP)! Look for more information on this program, anticipated for January–February (date TBA)

DCP Hotel information:

A room block is available at:

- **Courtyard by Marriott Ames for 139.00 USD per night - Last Day to Book : Tuesday, November 17, 2026**

Book your group rate for Iowa Institute for Cooperatives

Registration

Due Wednesday, December 9, 2026; $400 per person

Agenda:

2026-27 Directors Certification Program (DCP)

Digital Ag Innovation Center, 3700 University Blvd, Ames, IA

Thursday, December 17 – Day 1
10:00 AM-5:15 PM

10:00 a.m.	-	12:00 p.m.		**Cooperative Foundations and Principles**
12:00 p.m.	-	12:45 p.m.		**Lunch**
12:45 p.m.	-	2:00 p.m.		**Cooperative Governance** **Eric Eide**, Nyemaster Goode PC
2:00 p.m.	-	2:15 p.m.		**Break**
2:15 p.m.	-	5:15 p.m.		**Financial Acumen**
5:30 p.m.		--		**Dinner and Networking** **Dublin Bay Restaurant**

Friday, December 18 – Day 2
8:00 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.

7:30 a.m.	-	8:00 a.m.		**Coffee and Pastries**
8:00 a.m.	-	9:45 a.m.		**Financial Acumen cont.**
9:45 a.m.	-	10:00 a.m.		**Break**
10:00 a.m.	-	12:00 p.m.		**Strategic Thinking and Strategy in the Boardroom**
12:00 p.m.	-	12:45 p.m.		**Lunch**
12:45 p.m.	-	2:30 p.m.		**Strategic Thinking and Strategy in the Boardroom**
2:30 p.m.				**Wrap-up Discussion and Conclusion**