



**NYSAC**  
— NEW YORK STATE —  
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES



**Your NYSAC  
Membership**

# The County Voice



**MICHAEL E. ZURLO**  
President

**STEPHEN J. ACQUARIO**  
Executive Director



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**Delivering for Counties Since 1925**

# **Your County Voice in Albany and Washington.**

The New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) is a nonprofit bipartisan association serving the counties of New York State including the City of New York.

**NYSAC’s mission is to foster excellence in county government and unite the voice of New York’s county leaders.**

Organized in 1925, we are the only statewide municipal association representing the interests of thousands of county leaders, including legislators, supervisors, county executives, administrators, commissioners and other county officials who deliver essential services to New Yorkers.

Local government is at the heart of New York State, and NYSAC is proud to represent its counties and their elected and appointed officials.

As the voice of New York’s county leaders, NYSAC communicates the needs and recommendations of our county officials to state and federal lawmakers.

Throughout its history, NYSAC evolved along with our counties, helping them meet and overcome their challenges. As local governance became more complex, the association became more important than ever. We have come to be the one and only “Official Voice” of all counties, large and small. This voice influences federal and state policy in ways that benefit counties and the residents we all serve.

NYSAC’s success comes from our ability to unify New York’s counties—regardless of size, region, or political ideology—around the shared interests of a diverse state. Our collaborative approach empowers county officials to advocate for their needs, build networks, and learn from each other.

**We are NYSAC: The United Voice of New York’s Counties!**



# Legislative Advocacy

NYSAC amplifies the voices of county officials in Albany, Washington D.C. and throughout the state. Our legislative advocacy focuses on policy, legislation, and regulatory issues, and also extends to broader government policy development and implementation through participation on statewide advisory boards and committees.

## Recent Legislative Highlights

NYSAC Legislative Staff has...

- Reviewed, monitored, and commented on 1,746 bills and provided written or oral testimony to numerous state legislative committees;
- Continued legal support to counties in the opioid epidemic battle;
- Provided legal support, memos, and guidance to county attorneys;
- Facilitated new private sector partnerships to help improve local government service delivery and reduce costs;
- Assisted counties with local law development and interpretation, charter revisions, redistricting, and employee-related matters; and
- Represented county government on several advisory panels, including the Medicaid Waiver DSRIP Panel; Advisory Council for the Retirement System; Raise the Age and other juvenile justice reform panels; Invasive Species Advisory Committee; State's Criminal Justice Reform Task Force, and the Special Education Fiscal Advisory Workgroup, among others.

For more information on NYSAC's advocacy efforts, including our Legislative Program, please visit our website at [nysac.org/advocacy](https://nysac.org/advocacy).

## BOOKS, POLICY, AND RESEARCH REPORTS

- Our Darkest Hours: New York County Leadership & the COVID Pandemic
- Summary of Statewide Election Day Ballot Proposals
- County Population Snapshot
- Summary of Statewide Election Day Ballot Proposals
- Reforming Mental Health Competency Restoration in New York State
- County Cyber Security Response Briefing
- Cyber Security Terminology for Non-Technical County Leaders
- Testimony to Assembly Health Committee on Medicaid Sustainability
- Cannabis Law Implementation
- Interim Summary of the American Rescue Plan
- COVID-19 Mitigation Playbook
- COVID-19 Economic Impact Reports
- Interim SFY 22 Enacted State Budget County Impact Report
- One-House Budget County Impact Report
- Executive Budget County Impact Report

# Education & Training

NYSAC provides training and education to county leaders on issues vital to public policy and county services. The following is a comprehensive overview of NYSAC's training and educational programs that have been offered to our county members over the past two years. As needed, NYSAC's conferences and trainings have been adapted to a virtual setting.

## Major Conferences

- Legislative Conference — During the State Legislative Session
- Fall Seminar — Every September
- County Finance School — Every May in Onondaga County



## Orientation for Newly Elected and Appointed Officials

These sessions are developed to provide newly elected and appointed county officials with a firm foundation as they begin their public service as a county official. The orientation covers county budgets and finance, ethics laws, county organization, legal requirements and other issues that have an impact on them as they take their new office.

## County Government Institute

The County Government Institute is a non-profit organization jointly developed by NYSAC and Cornell University that offers a comprehensive educational program for county officials. The Institute is designed to enhance the knowledge, skills, and abilities of county officials.

## Regional Training

- Ethics in Government
- Intercounty Briefings/Adirondack-Western
- Leadership Meetings with State Government
- Presentations at affiliate meetings and conferences



For more information on training and education offered by NYSAC, please visit our website at [nysac.org/education](https://nysac.org/education).

# Workshops & Webinars

The following is a partial listing of recent NYSAC workshops and webinars. You can find a selection of recordings at [YouTube.com/NYSACTV](https://www.youtube.com/NYSACTV)

- Backup to Recovery: A Critical Cybersecurity Tool When Ransomware Impacts Counties
- Building Consensus in a Political Environment: Understanding Dispute Resolution
- Cannabis and Public Safety: Considerations for County Leaders
- Centralizing Citizen Complaints
- County Redistricting and Weighted Voting Systems
- County Revenue Update
- Deconstructing the Prison Pipeline
- EMS in Crisis: Challenges for Rural Ambulance Services
- EPR for Solar Panels in New York
- FEMA Reimbursement- The Process for Obtaining Federal Aid for COVID Expenses
- Fostering Diverse and Inclusive Leadership in your county
- Foundations of County Government
- Free Technical Assistance to Help Municipalities Protect their Public Drinking Water Sources
- Green Energy vs Green Space
- How to Prepare for the Vehicle Electrification World
- Leadership Lessons from the COVID Pandemic
- Leveraging Federal Resources with USDA Federal Development
- Malware and Ransomware: Prevention Protocols
- Maximizing American Rescue Plan Funds
- Meeting the Most Aggressive Climate Targets: A Climate Act Update
- Planning for Safe School Re-Openings: Screening Testing 101
- Policing Beyond Reform, Best Practices, Community Protection and Engagement
- Principles of County Budget & Finance
- Safeguarding County Information Systems
- Social Media Tips and Tricks for Engaging with Constituents and Lawmakers
- Sports Gambling: How New York State is Doubling Down on the Gaming Market
- Striking Gold in the “Green Rush”
- The 2020 Census and Redistricting Requirements
- The ABCs of PFAS: What County Officials Need to Know
- The American Jobs Plan and the Push for Modernizing America’s Infrastructure
- The Do’s and Don’ts Working with the Media
- The ETS Sponsorship Program, Operation Green Light and Supporting our Veterans
- Transforming New York’s Recycling System with Product Stewardship
- Understanding Your County’s Cyber Security Readiness
- Weathering the Storm: Extreme Weather Mitigation & Resilience
- Your County’s Guide to Tourism





# Communications

The NYSAC Communications Team works every day to help provide you with the news and updates you need to stay on top of the ever-changing issues facing New York's counties. Whether through e-mail, social media or the NYSAC.org website, your association provides a continuous stream of information tailored for county leaders.



The front door to your association! Visit [www.nysac.org](http://www.nysac.org) to learn about issues, initiatives, member resources and educational opportunities.

## Counties in the News

Daily e-mail of county-related news stories from news outlets across the state.

## The County Perspective

An e-newsletter publication sent weekly during the state legislative session to highlight county-related issues, NYSAC actions, and legislative activities taking place in Albany that week.

## County Conversations Podcast

Listen every week to a new episode as county leaders, issue experts and NYSAC staff discuss the issues and challenges of the day as well as innovative solutions and initiatives from counties and our partners. Subscribe on Apple Podcasts or Spotify so you never miss an episode, or listen on Podbean.

## Social Media

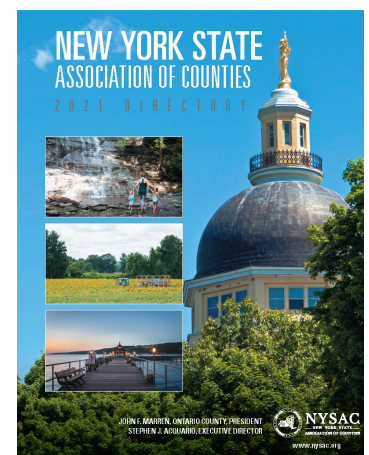
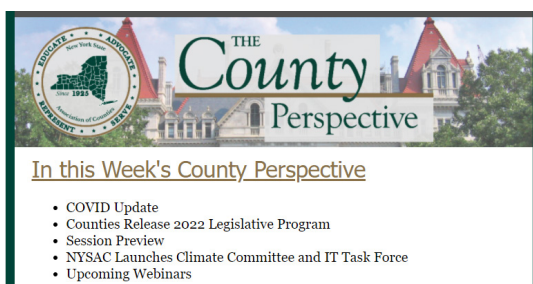
NYSAC maintains an active presence on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. Follow @NYSCounties and join the conversation!

## NYSAC News Magazine

The official publication of the association is published three times a year and focuses on issues important to counties, with articles written by experts in the field, NYSAC staff, and state leaders. Visit [nysac.org/magazine](http://nysac.org/magazine) to view past issues.

## County Directory

We collect and publish the only annual and most complete compilation of elected and appointed county employees from each county.



# Legal Services

The office of Counsel supports county attorneys and counties on legal issues affecting our membership. These issues include, but are not limited to, procurement, ethics, criminal justice, indigent defense and Native American Affairs.

## AWP Litigation

NYSAC unified county efforts in recovery of overcharges by drug companies using average wholesale pricing which increased costs to localities and the state.

## Opioid Litigation

NYSAC has worked with our counties, guiding them through the opioid litigation, helping to fight this national epidemic.

## Protect The Adirondacks Inc. v. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation et al.

NYSAC will support the efforts of the State DEC in this matter when it is heard by the Court of Appeals in 2020. At stake is the ability of the DEC to go forward with the planned construction of more than 27 miles of trail in the Adirondacks. This case has the potential to further define the amount and size of timber that can be cleared/trimmed for future projects as well.

## Tracking of County Local Laws

NYSAC counsel drafts quarterly updates to counties regarding individual county local laws which have been adopted during the months prior to the release.

NYSAC picks four to six laws which we believe would be of interest to other counties statewide. This provides counties with information regarding where the laws have been adopted so, if interest arises, counties will know where to turn to obtain a copy of said law to minimize duplicative efforts.

NYSAC has also worked closely with the Department of State to have all municipalities' local laws available on a statewide online database.





# Partnership Programs

After conducting a rigorous due diligence process, the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) has chosen to partner with the following companies as preferred service providers. NYSAC believes these superior programs that can help counties save money and provide exceptional services.

## New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal

The NYMIR is a non-profit municipal insurance program governed by officials from New York's local governments—counties, towns, villages and cities.

[www.nymir.org](http://www.nymir.org)

## Workers Compensation Program

NYSAC partners with the Public Employee Risk Management Association to provide workers compensation programs tailored for counties and county workers comp pools.

[www.perma.org](http://www.perma.org)

## Nationwide

NYSAC, in partnership with the National Association of Counties (NACo) and Nationwide, provides employees with ways to invest in a deferred compensation retirement account.

## ProAct

ProAct's partnership with NYSAC offers county employees and residents lower cost prescriptions through their PBM and discount drug card.

[www.proactrx.com](http://www.proactrx.com)

## School Bus Stop Arm Safety Program

NYSAC has a growing partnership for a school bus stop arm camera program that helps protect students getting on and off the school bus safely by reducing the number of school bus passing violations.

## Municipal Healthcare Financing Collective

The collective combines covered lives to lower and stabilize the cost of stop-loss insurance for self-insured county health plans.

## County Dental Network Card Program

Through NYSAC, counties can provide residents with a low-cost dental card entitling them to lower fees for dental services.

## NYSAC P-Card Program

The NYSAC P-Card, administered by PFM, is a special type of credit card that offers a cost-free mechanism with which counties can streamline, track their purchases, and generate a rebate.

## OMNIA Partners

The leading national government purchasing cooperative provides procurement resources and solutions to towns, counties, school districts, and colleges looking for the best pricing.

## Cashvest by 3+1

Threeplusone provides a new level of liquidity analysis, producing evaluations that can be used to generate more value and new revenue on a county's current cash deposits.

Some of these partnerships provide fees to NYSAC in exchange for the endorsement, marketing support and program oversight, and for the right to be the exclusive provider of the products under the program, which is a common practice in the public sector market.

These fees help to stabilize dues for our member counties and benefit member counties through our ability to improve and expand the services, education, and training that we provide.



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