

NCASG Annual Conference Agenda

October 4, 2026 – October 7, 2026



"North Star CompCon: Snow Me the Money"

Sunday, October 4: CRAVE at Mall of America, 2nd floor

<i>Time</i>	<i>Session Information</i>
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Check-in & Welcome Reception at CRAVE

Monday, October 5: Parkview Conference Room at Mall of America, 1st floor

<i>Time</i>	<i>Session Information</i>
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Check-in outside conference site
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Welcome and Flag Ceremony
9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	Session 1 (Keynote): General Economic Conditions <i>Erick Garcia Luna – Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Director of Regional Outreach</i>
9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	State Reports
10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Break
10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Session 2: Defending Bureaucracy: Safeguarding Good Government in the Midst of Chaos and Crisis <i>Dori Leland – State of Minnesota, Minnesota Management and Budget, Workforce Development Director</i>
11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Session 3: From Policy to Paycheck: Translating Legislative Change into a Modern Compensation Strategy for a State Agency <i>Gallagher Vendor Presentation (Sponsored by Gallagher)</i>
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	Session 4: Panel Discussion: Is it really all about the base? Differentials, Incentives, and other supplemental pay <i>Presenter pending</i>

<i>Time</i>	<i>Session Information</i>
2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Break
2:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	Session 5: Panel Discussion: Classifications and Job Evaluations <i>Christine Overfors (Host), Steve Ainger (IA), Wendy Mays (WV), Kim Franek (MN)</i>
3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Introduction to Night Activity
4:45 p.m.	Activity & Dinner: Minnesota State Capitol Tour and Riverside Dinner at City House

Tuesday, October 6: Parkview Conference Room at Mall of America, 1st floor

<i>Time</i>	<i>Session Information</i>
8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	Breakfast
8:45 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Welcome and Recap
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Session 6 (Keynote): The Price of Public Service: A Labor Economist's View on Competitive Pay <i>Dr. Alan Benson – University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management, Professor, Work and Organizations Group</i>
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	State Reports
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Break
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Session 7: Panel Discussion: Artificial Intelligence and Compensation <i>Panelists pending</i>
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch & NCASG Themes Presentation
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Session 8: Salary, Benefits, and Pay Practices & Structures Survey Results <i>Survey Coordinators: Steven Ainger (IA), Kevin Cronen (ND), Crystal Smith (DE)</i>
2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	State Reports
2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	Break
2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Awards
3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	State Reports
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Session 9: Diamond or Cubic Zirconia: The many dimensions affecting labor market data quality and the potential for AI enhancement <i>John Wiesman, Wisconsin</i>

<i>Time</i>	<i>Session Information</i>
<i>4:30 p.m.</i>	Conference Wrap Up, Outstanding Issues Dinner on your own

Wednesday, October 7: Firelake Restaurant at Radisson Blu

<i>Time</i>	<i>Session Information</i>
<i>7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.</i>	Breakfast
<i>8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.</i>	Business Meeting (member states only)