Who is NCEL?
The Naifeh Center for Effective Leadership (NCEL) is an agency within the University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service. With offices in Knoxville and Nashville, we serve all Tennesseans.

Our expertise has helped thousands of dedicated professionals in public service improve their leadership skills. NCEL promotes creative leadership, managerial effectiveness, professional skills enhancement and lifelong development for individuals and their organizations.

How Can NCEL help my organization?

• Develop and deliver custom leadership programs, workshops and various leadership academies to meet organizational needs.
• Administer a host of leadership and behavioral assessments, including MBTI, HBDI, CPI 260, LIFO, FIRO-B, Thomas Killman Instrument, and many others.
• Provide certificate programs in the areas of management and supervision, mentoring and leadership development.
• Provide online certificate programs in the areas of leadership, management, HR and administrative support.
• Develop and manage mentoring programs.
• Execute team-building workshops to empower organizations to operate more effectively.
• Provide executive coaching and strategic planning for agencies and departments.

How Can I Learn More?
NCEL Director, Dr. Macel Ely: (865) 974-9830 macel.ely@tennessee.edu

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Naifeh Center for Effective Leadership
NCEL Flagship Programs

Administrative Professionals Academy (APA)
A leadership development program within the University of Tennessee developed for administrative or non-exempt staff.

Certified Public Manager (CPM)
Training provided to supervisors and managers in local, state and federal government.

Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP)
Training designed for government leaders who represent Tennessee municipalities and county government.

Online Training
Self-paced leadership training that provides relevant and quality training for everyone involved in state and local government anytime, anywhere.

Tennessee Government Executive Institute (TGEI)
Training designed for senior-level executives in state government.

Tennessee Government Management Institute (TGMI)
Training designed for upper level managers in state government.

Tennessee Legislative Leaders Academy
Training designed for members of the Tennessee State Legislature.

Team Building
This customizable training will provide your organization with the skills and resources to become a cohesive team.

Frequently Asked Questions

Does my team have to be based in Nashville or Knoxville to work with NCEL?
We serve all Tennesseans and travel throughout the state to provide leadership and professional development training.

My team is not in state government; can I still contract with NCEL?
While we are unique in serving state government, we also work with local and federal agencies as well as non-profit and private sector companies.

Does NCEL only do multi-day trainings/institutes/academies?
NCEL will work with you and your agency to determine the best training solution. It may be a one-day class is all your organization needs!

What are some examples of trainings offered by NCEL?
NCEL has partnered with a number of agencies to provide training on mentoring, strength-based leadership, conflict management, time management, emotional intelligence and maximizing productivity - just to name a few.