

Dear WFSE Member:

Who will represent you at the table with your employer? It's time to decide.

The power of our union is in solidarity: the strength and influence we have when we join forces as WFSE members to protect our jobs, families and communities.

That's what bargaining is all about.

It's the power of our joined forces at the table with our employers, advocating for the rights and livelihoods we all depend on as public service workers.

We are preparing now to negotiate with employers to make crucial changes and updates to our 2023-2025 collective bargaining agreement.

What's at stake?

- How much money will go in our pockets?
- How much will we pay for health insurance?
- How many days will we get off?
- And more.

Our union contract is a living document. For it to be powerful and beneficial, we need strong bargaining team members to meet with employers during this process.

These folks are ***your bargaining team***—and it's time to nominate them.

Being on the bargaining team is a big commitment. We have fought hard for these seats at the table, and they matter. We need you to nominate the coworkers and union siblings who you trust for this important process. This is your chance to decide who will be on your team.

Watch your emails for a nomination notification—you will receive a specific link to nominate members to your bargaining team.

Have questions? Need help? Call the Member Connection Center (MCC) at 833-MCC-WFSE (1-833-622-9373)

This is an important decision.

The folks representing us at the bargaining table have serious responsibilities that affect the lives of thousands of WFSE members, including:

- Developing the initial bargaining proposal to be presented to the employer
- Negotiating with the employer

- Approving final contract language and making recommendations to union siblings on whether they believe the proposed agreements should be approved or rejected

Bargaining teams have the power to alter, modify, change, or concede on all issues to obtain the best possible contracts and reach a tentative agreement, or declare that the team has reached an impasse. They are truly your representatives at the table.

What does serving on the bargaining team mean?

Bargaining team members:

- Are responsible for communicating with members about this critical process, including report-outs at worksites
- Must be willing to share their contact information with the members they are representing at the table
- Must work with WFSE staff to schedule meetings during this process
- Must abide by all rules of conduct established by their respective teams

Being a bargaining team member means spending a lot of time over many months, sometimes late into the evening, negotiating, researching, communicating, and mobilizing union power.

Team members may be required to travel as necessary. When travel is required, WFSE will assist with making travel arrangements and will pay for travel expenses in accordance with the WFSE's member expense policy.

Bargaining team members may also be authorized time loss in accordance with WFSE policy to aid them in fulfilling these responsibilities.

Who can participate?

As you can see, negotiating the contract that spells out our wages, benefits, and rights is a critical part of being a union member. For this reason, you must be a full WFSE member to participate.

[Not a full WFSE member? Join now so you can nominate your team and fully participate in the process.](#)

For more information, please visit the WFSE website at wfse.org/contracts. If you have questions, please contact the WFSE Negotiations Department at 1-800-562-6002.

In Solidarity,

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cc: WFSE Council 28 Staff