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STATE OF OHIO NEWSLETTER

Contract Expiring Next Year

As our current contract is set to expire in 2027, it is important for all state employees to begin preparing now for the work ahead. Being informed, engaged, and united will help ensure that our voices are heard and that we are ready to advocate for fair wages, strong benefits, and the workplace protections we deserve. The time to prepare is now, because a strong contract starts with a strong and organized membership.



Your Boss. Your Vote. Your Future.

With our contract set to expire in 2027, it's important to remember that the Governor plays a key role in determining how negotiations move forward and what priorities the state brings to the table. As state employees, we have a unique opportunity to elect the person who will ultimately serve as our boss and influence the direction of our workplace for years to come. That's why it is critical that we stay informed, engaged, and prepared—because the decisions made in the next election could have a direct impact on our wages, benefits, working conditions, and the strength of our next contract.

The Freedom Foundation's REAL Agenda

The billionaire-funded Freedom Foundation is using state employees' personal information to try to get you to leave your union. But, their real agenda is to privatize your job, take your pension, lower your wages, and reduce your health care. This is completely unacceptable. Our union is the only thing standing in the way of their goals. That's why this out-of-state, anti-union group is coming to Ohio to try and weaken worker power, rig the rules in their favor, lie about their motives, and try and get you to drop your union membership.

Not on our watch. SEIU and other Unions that represent state members are not going to let that slide. Our members know that real freedom is the freedom that you and your coworkers have to stand together, secure a union contract, provide for our families, and contribute to the common good in Ohio. That means, we need to tell these out of state, anti-union groups to hit the road, because we aren't interested in their games.

Go to We Are Ohio's website to learn more at WeAreOhio.com and be sure to report any activity from The Freedom Foundation to our union to Executive Vice President Josh Norris at jnorris@seiu1199.org

**DON'T GET
FOOLED**

by "Freedom" Foundation



Employee Development Fund

The link below provides a step-by-step guide for members on how to submit a reimbursement request through the Employee Development Fund (EDF) system. It includes instructions on logging into MyOhio, navigating the reimbursement request form, entering course details, adding attachments, and submitting the request. Each section of the form is explained in detail. For more information, view the full guide:

https://www.seiu1199.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/EDF_Job_Aid-1.pdf

EDF Fund Settlement

Previously, some employees attended all-inclusive conferences where the registration fee covered the conference, hotel accommodations, and meals in one combined cost. The State has clarified that it will only reimburse the conference or seminar registration fee, while hotel and meal expenses must be reimbursed separately under Article 21. We reached a settlement reaffirming this contract language, and EDF is updating its processing procedures accordingly. Going forward, employees attending all-inclusive conferences must obtain an itemized receipt so the conference cost can be separated from eligible hotel and meal expenses.

Check Your Membership Benefits

Did you know you can access exclusive benefits as a part of our Union? SEIU 1199 would like to invite you to take advantage of all three of your member benefit programs: your membership card, the SEIU Member Benefits Program, and savings with Union Plus.

Contact the Member Resource Center or visit our website: <https://www.seiu1199.org/> to learn more.



Organizing Unions for All

Do you want to help build power for working people in facilities who don't have a union? If you have friends or family that work in the hospital, nursing home, or other service industries who are interested in joining the Union, SEIU is continually growing and working to organize workers in our fight for worker and social justice. We have an organizing department ready to support workers who want to stand up for the treatment they deserve. If you have organizing leads, send them to Samara Knight at sknight@seiu1199.org or call the MRC at 877-419-7348.



Get Involved

The Union is always looking for members to become more involved as active leaders in their chapter. Luckily, if you are interested in becoming a leader in the union, there are plenty of roles you can fill! If you are interested in becoming a delegate, member strength coordinator, or any leadership role within your chapter, please reach out the Member Resource Center so you can get the training you need to start being an active leader.

Save The Date

Upcoming APC Dates

APA - Oct 15

DBH - Dec 9

DRC - Nov. 4

DYS - Sept 16 and Nov 24

DODD - Nov 30

OOD - Sept 15 and Dec 7

DCY - Sept 14 and Dec 9th

JFS - Sept 14 and Dec. 9

Recovery Svcs - Oct 20

ODM - Sept 28 and Dec 1

BWC - Oct 29