

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Student Debt Clinic & Loan Forgiveness

Facilitated by AFT Higher Education Department

This AFT-run student debt clinic will provide tools and information to help you take the necessary steps to reduce what you pay every month on your student loans and help identify other applicable forgiveness opportunities in order to achieve a debt-free future.

Union 101

Facilitated by AFT National Staff & AFT NM Leadership

This class will equip both veteran and new local union leaders with best practices for leadership both from locals within New Mexico and across the country. This will help you evolve your union's structure for success, and will allow for individual local flexibility based on your needs. Additionally, this class will highlight running effective meetings and strategies for organizing.

Social Media: A Winning Tool For Your Union's Next Campaign

Facilitated by AFT National Staff

Social media can be a powerful tool for member engagement, organizing, mobilizing, contract or legislative campaigns, or just about any initiative our union is undertaking. This session will cover various forms of social media, including Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and Snapchat, and how they can be effectively deployed in a campaign. Through practical examples, we'll explore how any union, regardless of size or budget, can utilize social media.

Building Rep Training

Facilitated by AFT NM Staff

Although it might seem small, as a Building Rep or Site Steward, you will play a vital role in the success of your local. You are the eyes and ears in each building who has a feel for the pulse of staff morale. We believe that the people closest to the action are the ones who should be making the key decisions that affect our work, and that's why you are so important! This session will provide an overview of the roles and responsibilities of a building rep/site steward and will provide tools to help you feel empowered in this role.

Get ConnectED

Facilitated by AFT National Staff

Data skills are becoming more and more necessary for Organizing. Like a GPS used to get you from point A to point B – good data will tell you where you are, best strategies to get you where you are going, and when you have arrived at your goal. Come learn about maintaining the foundation of your membership by using AFT Connect. With the goal of having better information on the people you represent than your employer has, we can help you set up systems for keeping information on the full “bargaining” unit up to date. With this strong foundation, you can more easily connect all of your campaign data.

Support for New Presidents

Facilitated by AFT NM Staff

This session designed for recently elected local presidents provides an overview of the knowledge, skills, and inspiration you need to lead your local strategically and steadily. You will learn how to analyze your local's needs and make progress on membership participation, build strong community alliances, proactively address policy challenges and priorities, and strengthen your communications and political programs.



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Utilizing Your Union's Communication Tools

Facilitated by AFT Staff

This course is intended for members who have the responsibility of talking to the public through all types of media. More and more, we are called upon to talk with the public and media concerning our members' values and needs. The intent of this course is to provide you with basic information on preparation and presentation, and to involve you in practice and feedback. We will cover a variety of tools that can be used to communicate with members, potential members, and the public.

Preparing For Retirement

Facilitated by AFT NM Retirees Local #8029R and AFT National Staff

Are you retiring in the near future and don't know where to start? Sign up for this class to learn about the tools available to you as an educator to ensure that you are aware of all the resources available as you navigate this important step in your career. The session will cover issues related to the NM Educational Retirement Board, AFT NM Retiree activism and structure, and how to stay engaged, even after you have retired. Even if you are not retired, this is a great session for local leaders to familiarize themselves with this process and how to be helpful to your membership.

Work Shouldn't Hurt

Facilitated by AFT Staff

Workers across the nation are facing an increase in workplace violence and on-the-job injuries. This session focuses on how to respond to situations when students or patients display violent behaviors or when the workplace feels unsafe.

Grievances Vs Gripes

Facilitated by AFT NM Staff

This introduction to grievances will help activists and leaders learn what constitutes a grievance in a collective bargaining setting. The session outlines the role of the union representative in the grievance process and features practice scenarios that will help you put these basic grievance concepts into action in real-life situations back at your worksite.

Getting the Most Out of Back to School

Facilitated by AFT NM Staff

Learn how to use back-to-school orientations as an opportunity for your local to meet and talk about your union with new and all employees in your school district. This class will help you prepare ahead by reviewing a recommended list of tips, supplies, and best practices from across our state locals. All the information you may need to start of your school year successfully and present the best first impression possible for your union! Highly encouraged for local presidents and local member organizers/PSRP Task Force members.

Google Tools

Facilitated by Nicole Keeney (AFT NM Secretary)

Back by popular demand! This session focuses on best practices for using Google Classroom and other tips and tricks that will help make your professional life easier. If you sign up for this class, please plan to bring your laptop or device so you can follow along.



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Equality New Mexico

Facilitated by EQNM Staff

An overview of the incredible work our community partners Equality New Mexico (EQNM) have done in recent years as well as best practices for ensuring that our classrooms, hospitals, and work sites are safe and welcoming environments for all.

Planned Parenthood Legislative Overview

Facilitated by Planned Parenthood New Mexico

Planned Parenthood of The Rocky Mountains has been at the forefront of legislation that directly impacts our schools and communities. Hear an overview of recently passed legislation and some bills that didn't quite cross the finish line but we will see in the future.

Restorative Practices for Educators

Facilitated by AFT Staff

Building and strengthening relationships and community is a critical component of school culture. Restorative practices is an essential process for creating a positive learning environment and resolving relational issues.

During this session, you will learn the fundamental theory and practices for engaging with students, staff, and parents in your school setting.

Higher Education Organizing and Nationwide Trends

Facilitated by AFT NM Staff

Across the country, organizing in the higher education space has grown rapidly. This session takes a deep dive into the nationwide movement including time for discussion about what is possible here in New Mexico both through our future legislative work and also through our on-the-ground grassroots work.

