



Leadership Scholarship Program Overview

The Steelworkers Union has a great history of organizing and representing members from nearly every sector across Canada and the United States and we have built alliances with Unions around the world. As we move forward working to build family supportive jobs, safer workplaces and stronger communities, we will need Local Union Leadership with the vision and skills to make it happen. The USW's Leadership Scholarship Program is designed to develop the skills of local union members for this precise objective. Established by the International Executive Board in 1997, this program combines ideas with action to build the leaders, vision, power and solidarity that will stop the corporate-driven race to the bottom.

Over a four year period, participants attend four week-long training sessions in which they learn with and from fellow USW members. The intense training challenges participants to expand their strategic planning and leadership abilities, and learn to effectively communicate with the community and media. Heavy emphasis is placed on a collaborative learning atmosphere which helps leaders define and obtain goals.

District Directors nominate activists to the program who demonstrate commitment and service to the USW. Each District is allotted a specific number of participants to nominate to the program on a per capita basis. Each participant is awarded an \$800 stipend, plus room, board, and travel expenses.

Program Highlights

Level 1

Building the Local Union

- Building Solidarity in the Workplace
- Analyzing Labor's Challenges
- Economics for Workers
- Learning from Labor History
- Public Speaking

Level 2

Strategy Planning & Continuous Bargaining

- Confronting Workplace Change
- Getting the Word Out: Using New Media
- Strategic Planning for Power
- Building Local Union Committees
- Leading Volunteers & Recruiting New Activists

Level 3

Bargaining for Our Future

- Researching Your Employer
- Conducting A Contract Campaign
- Preparing Your Bargaining Committee
- Negotiating Strategically at the Table

Level 4

We inherit the past; We create our future

- Planning for Action
- Messaging and Mobilization
- Arbitration
- Handling Grievances
- Train-the-Trainer: Teaching and Facilitating

The Leadership Scholarship Program is coordinated by the staff of the Department of Education and Membership Development. We believe education should be used to empower and mobilize USW members and that we all have much to learn and teach one another

Smarter is Stronger