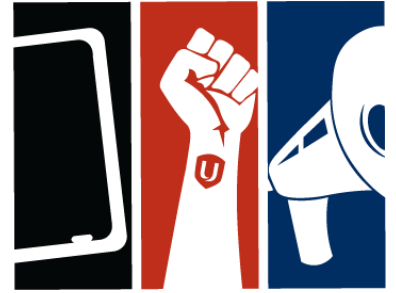


UNIFOR Education

UNIFOR – Service de l'éducation



January 2025

TO: Presidents, Vice Presidents and Recording Secretaries

2025 Family Education Program

Greetings!

Does a family vacation on the shores of beautiful Lake Huron in Ontario at a resort-like facility where your travel, accommodations and food are all looked after at no cost to your members or the local sound too good to be true? Unifor's Family Education Program offers this and so much more.

The Unifor Family Education Program is funded by the National Union. There is no cost to your local, and you are NOT required to have PEL in your collective agreement in order to apply or send members to this program.

This year we are holding two (2) English language sessions:

2025 DATES

Session 1 – Sunday, July 6th through Sunday, July 13th

Session 2 – Sunday, July 20th through Sunday, July 27th

ASL Interpretation available during Session 2

Applications must be received by our office no later than:
Friday, March 14th, 2025

Colour posters have been included with this letter. It includes space for you to write in your Local Union contact person and their contact information. ***Please find a way to get these information posters displayed in all your workplaces.***

Additional application forms, information packages or posters can be photocopied or printed off our webpage at uniforeducation.org.

We want to restate our practice of first considering families who have never had the opportunity to attend the Family Education Program. Members are not eligible if they have attended within the last 7 years. The program is open to all Unifor members and their **immediate** family. For the purpose of the program, **immediate** family is spouse/partner and dependent children (up to and including age 18 only). **THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE GRANDCHILDREN, NIECES, NEPHEWS, ETC.**

We hope you will do your utmost to promote this amazing opportunity to all Unifor members in your local. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Buckley in the Port Elgin office at 1-800-265-3735, extension 3217, or by e-mail at family.education@unifor.org

In solidarity,

Robin Fairchild Clennell
Director, Education Department
robin.fairchild@unifor.org

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Enclosures

cc. Lana Payne, Unifor National President
Len Poirier, Secretary-Treasurer
Assistants
National Executive Board
National Representatives
Sarah Hamilton, Director – Unifor Family Education Centre
Reservations – Unifor Family Education Centre
Laurie Wright, Director of Childcare, Unifor Family Education Centre

Unifor Family Education Program

What is the Unifor Family Education Program?

This is a unique program where members and their families learn about our Union and about issues facing Canadian families.

ADULTS will discuss current economic and social issues from a worker's viewpoint, as well as the history, structure and policies of our Union. We will also have a number of excellent guest speakers on topics that touch the lives of workers every day: changing society, globalization, our health care system, coalition building, human rights and equality issues, to name a few.

All sessions are held in a comfortable and very informal setting.

TEENS – 13 to 18 years, will be involved in their own program that will be geared to the concerns and issues of their age group. Again, the setting for their discussions is informal and relaxed.

CHILDREN – 4 to 12 years will have a program supervised by trained recreation counsellors with activities ranging from arts and crafts to games and sports.

CHILDREN – infants to age 3 will be cared for in the day-nursery, complete with infant daycare and preschool facilities - including sleeping accommodation, enclosed playground and qualified staff. Please note that infants must be enrolled in child care and will not attend the classroom sessions with parents.

Will there be family time?

Discussions in class generally run from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Evenings are free to enjoy an array of organized and unorganized recreation activities.

If this sounds like something you and your family would be interested in, complete an application and submit before the registration deadline of Friday, March 14th. (See application to find out where to return your completed application.)

Have questions? Contact Amy Buckley in the Unifor Education Department at 1-800-265-3735, ext #3217 or by e-mail at family.education@unifor.org

Eligibility Requirements and Instructions

- ✓ You are eligible to apply for the Family Education Program if you are a Unifor member in good standing and have a spouse/partner and/or children 18 years of age or younger. *(If you do not have a spouse/partner and/or children 18 years and younger to attend with you, you are not eligible – please investigate attending one of our Paid Education Leave Programs instead.)*
- ✓ You do not require Paid Education Leave [PEL] in your contract.
- ✓ You are ***NOT eligible*** to apply for the Family Education Program if you have attended within the last 7 years.
- ✓ **Unifor will provide, free of charge, food and lodging for each participant (and family member) during your stay at the Education Centre.**
- ✓ Each participant must contribute their time (vacation, personal leave, etc.). **NO LOST TIME, PER DIEM OR MILEAGE WILL BE PAID.**
- ✓ The program runs from Sunday dinner through to the following Sunday at approximately 11:00 am. Early departures from the program cannot be accommodated. Please ensure you can attend the entire program before applying.
- ✓ Plane tickets will be provided by the National Union (if you are traveling more than 500 kilometers one way, and choose to fly rather than drive).
- ✓ Those requiring an overnight stay while travelling to and from the Centre, will be provided with hotel accommodations. Costs for meals during this overnight stay are your responsibility.
- ✓ ***Please fill out the entire application form***, including date and signatures. Have it signed by your local union President or Financial Secretary and **return all 3 pages of the application by [Friday, March 14th](#) to:**

Amy Buckley, Unifor Education Department
115 Shipley Avenue, Port Elgin, ON
EMAIL: Family.Education@unifor.org

If you, or a member of your family, require special medical consideration or have dietary needs while participating in the Family Program, please ensure you complete the section on page 3 of the application with full details.

Will dependent children attend the program with you? If so, please provide their information below.

PLEASE NOTE: Your dependent children (up to and including the age of 18) may accompany you. *This DOES NOT include nieces, nephews, grandchildren, etc.* Bring proof of health coverage for emergency medical.

First & Last Name	Date of Birth (Month / Day / Year)	Gender

Our ability to accommodate is based on the information you provide to us in advance. Do you, or anyone in your family, have special needs/requirements we should be aware of (including, but not limited to: wheelchair access, food allergies, learning disabilities, hearing/vision impairment, ADHD, Autism, behavioural issues, etc.)? **When completing this section, be sure to note the family member you are referring to.** Please provide complete details so we can be prepared so that you and your family can enjoy the program. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Listed below are the dates of each program scheduled for this summer. Indicate your first choice by placing a “1” in the appropriate box. If you are available and able to attend an alternate session, place a “2” in the box of your second choice. ***IF IT’S NOT POSSIBLE TO ATTEND AN ALTERNATE SESSION DUE TO WORK VACATION SCHEDULE, DO NOT NOTE A 2ND CHOICE. EARLY DEPARTURES FROM THE PROGRAM CANNOT BE ACCOMMODATED.***

- SESSION #1 – Sunday, July 6th through Sunday, July 13th *inclusive***
- SESSION #2 – Sunday, July 20th through Sunday, July 27th *inclusive***



If your trip involves air travel, please specify the city from which you would like your initial flight to originate:

Please read and check off the important information below, and sign that you have read and understood the following:

- Each participant must contribute **their** time (vacation, personal leave, etc.) **NO LOST TIME, MILEAGE OR PER DIEM WILL BE PAID.**
- Plane tickets will be provided by the National Union if you are travelling more than 500 km one way.
- Your application must be signed by your Local Union PRESIDENT or FINANCIAL SECRETARY, to verify you are a member in good standing, and therefore eligible to attend the program.
- Participation in class is **mandatory** for **ALL** family members – including infants and children.
- Program runs from Sunday evening through to the following Sunday at approximately 11:00 am - early departures from the program cannot be accommodated.
- Unifor will provide, free of charge, food and lodging to each participant (and their family members) during your stay at the Education Centre.

I have read and understood the above:

Signature of Applicant: _____

Date of Application: _____

Note to Local Union President/Financial Secretary:

All members are eligible to attend the Family Education Program, providing they are Members in Good Standing. Paid Education Leave (PEL) is not required to attend this program as no lost time is paid, and members contribute their own time to attend (vacation, personal leave, etc.). Your Local will not be billed for any costs as a result of this applicant attending the Family Education Program.

I certify the Applicant to be a member in good standing.

(PLEASE PRINT)

(SIGNATURE)

President Financial Secretary

Date: _____

Return completed applications BEFORE FRIDAY, MARCH 14TH to:

Amy Buckley, Unifor Education Department
e-mail: Family.Education@unifor.org
mail: 115 Shipley Avenue, Port Elgin, ON, N0H 2C5

Selection of applicants will take approximately two weeks AFTER the deadline date. All applicants will be advised in writing of the disposition of their application. Questions can be directed to Amy Buckley at Family.Education@unifor.org or 1-800-265-3735, extension 3217.