

Union dues: Every dollar, accounted for.

Most organizations hide the bill. We itemize ours, and our members vote on it.

The Dues Dollar (2026–27)

- **50¢** : Negotiating local contracts that provide better pay, good benefits and a secure retirement.
- **11¢** : Legal support to help members defend their rights and enforce their contracts.
- **9¢** : Fighting to ensure our voice is heard in the halls of power.
- **8¢** : Professional development tools, training conferences and certification assistance.
- **7¢** : Regional offices with the resources and infrastructure to support our locals.
- **7¢** : Amplifying our voice and advocating for our professions in the media and online.
- **6¢** : Direct assistance to SRPs, small and rural locals, healthcare professionals and retirees.
- **2¢** : Partnering with state and national unions to amplify our voice and defend our values.



STRAIGHT ANSWERS

What do my dues actually fund?

The chart is the answer. Half goes to negotiating your contract, and every other cent backs it up: enforcement, advocacy, training and support.

What if I never file a grievance? Am I still getting my money's worth?

Yes. That means your union contract and supports are working. Every raise, benefit and protection in your contract was negotiated, and is enforced, with dues money behind it. You use your membership every day you work.

Who decides how dues are spent?

You and your fellow members do. Your local elects delegates to the Representative Assembly, the union's highest decision-making body, which votes on the budget and on dues themselves.

Do my dues go to political candidates?

No. Your dues fund advocacy for pro-public school laws and budgets, but no member dues dollars go to political candidates. Candidate support comes from VOTE-COPE, our voluntary political action fund.

THE BIG NUMBER

100%

Your dues dollar, itemized on this page. No fine print, no mystery line items. Just the work and what it costs.

THE BOTTOM LINE

Half of every dues dollar negotiates your contract. The other half enforces, defends and builds on it.