

WHY JOIN UNISON?



UNISON SCOTLAND FURTHER EDUCATION BRANCH SPEAKS UP FOR SUPPORT STAFF

WE ARE THE UNION FOR SUPPORT STAFF IN FURTHER EDUCATION

We are the biggest support staff Union in FE and have thousands of members across Scotland's colleges represented by the FE Branch. As the biggest public sector union in the UK, we have a wealth of knowledge and experience to support you both locally and nationally.

We represent staff in all occupational groups within the sector (student services, admissions, libraries, reception, campus teams, administration and instructors, to name but a few).

We meet regularly with the Scottish Government civil servants and the education minister to lobby on UNISON members issues on your behalf. We need even more members in every college though to increase the number of seats we have in national negotiations and strengthen the voice of support staff. It may be a well-worn phrase but in FE, unity really is strength.

We are THE lead negotiators for support staff

- **UNISON compiles and submits our annual pay claims for Support Staff and leads the negotiations. We have the majority of negotiators on the NJNC Support Staff Table. UNISON is engaged with employers in numerous working groups to move towards rationalisation of pay and grading and terms and conditions across the sector.**
- **We also want to ensure that we have enough staff to run the services our students need and demand in the face of swathes of job cuts since regionalisation in 2014. We have been engaging the Scottish Government and employers on this issue and will continue to do so.**
- **Our current main negotiating objective is to achieve a single pay and grading model based on the current national job evaluation scheme, and a single set of terms & conditions for all staff in Further Education in Scotland.**

How do
I join?

Sign up online at: join.unison.org.uk or contact your local Steward for a joining form. If there is no steward in place at your workplace and you are unable to join online please email: help@unisonfe.scot



Who are UNISON Scotland Further Education Branch?

...AND WHAT DO WE DO FOR OUR MEMBERS?

The Branch is made up of branch officers, local college steward representatives & Branch Health and Safety representatives from most colleges in Scotland. We meet regularly to discuss relevant issues and make decisions. The Branch has responsibility for everything that impacts on our members within Scotland's colleges from agreeing organising strategies, campaigning priorities, responding to Government consultations and requests from press, to directing negotiations on National Bargaining. We are always looking to train new members to become activists to continue the work of the Branch.



Are there other reasons you should join? YES!

You can earn more: Year on year, UNISON wins pay rises for its members. Pay negotiations are conducted nationally, but all union members are consulted on annual pay rises.

You're more likely to get equal pay: We campaign to bring women's pay into line with men's.

You get more and better training: We provide courses to help you learn new skills, improve existing ones, and develop your career. We fight for time off for training and development for support staff. The Pay Terms and Conditions agreement of September 2021 included 14 hours for self-directed career development planning and research for Support Staff

You are safer at work: UNISON wins millions in legal compensation for people who are injured or become ill at work. Through the work of health & safety reps, we support our members at work and challenge employers where they fail to minimise risk, harm, ill health and accidents.

You're less likely to be discriminated against: UNISON campaigns for tougher laws to make it illegal to discriminate based on sex, race, age, disability or sexual orientation.

You're less likely to be sacked: Trade union members are half as likely to be sacked as non-members.

www.unison-scotland.org/service-groups-and-sectors/further-education