



SEIU 517M
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

The **E-Former**

The Official Electronic Newsletter of
SEIU Local 517M

December 2020

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Ongoing Pandemic Serves as a Stark Reminder that Workers Need a Strong Collective Voice in the Workplace

By Jeremy Tripp, Executive Director

Across the country, 2020 has been a year of extraordinary challenges and SEIU 517M members have been on the front lines every step of the way.

As the year comes to an end, I want to recognize the vital role our members have played and highlight the incredible service they have provided throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

From processing an unprecedented number of unemployment claims, ensuring the education and safety of our schools, testing tens of thousands of COVID cases, and ensuring the maintenance of critical infrastructure throughout our state, SEIU 517M members have stepped-up during these uncertain times to provide critical services when Michiganders have needed them most.

In socially distanced worksites, from home, on the road, or via Zoom, members have adapted to the ongoing challenges of COVID and made the best of an increasingly virtual work life. They have stood up to anti-worker attacks, engaged their co-workers like never before, shared lifesaving information, served on important workplace safety committees, and shown the true value of the work they do.

To ensure the safety of all Michiganders, we know that in 2021, SEIU 517M members must continue to speak with a strong collective voice in the workplace, show support for their co-workers and play a key role in how the employer navigates this pandemic safely and responsibly.

We must also continue to fight for improved safety protocols and equipment, maintain the incredible level of service to the public and lift up any and all issues that threaten the safety or health of workers.

As we enter the holiday season, please take a moment and reflect on this year as there are many things to be proud of. We encourage SEIU 517M members to celebrate the holidays safely. We remind you to practice prescribed COVID-19 safety protocols when gathering with family and friends. You can visit our website for additional [news and resources related to COVID-19](#).

STAY SAFE — STAY INFORMED

www.seiu517m.org

[Twitter at: @SEIU517M](#)

[Facebook at: SEIULocal517M](#)

Free College Member Only Benefit Expanded!

By Dave Corrie, SEIU Staff

The SEIU Member Benefit program offering free tuition at Eastern Gateway Community College (EGCC) has been expanded! Now, in addition to an Associate's degree or certificate from EGCC, you can now complete your Bachelor's Degree from Central State University—for free! This benefit is open to dues-paying SEIU members and their families.

Federal, state, and employer grants don't always cover the full cost of earning a degree online. SEIU is proud to partner with Eastern Gateway Community College and Central State University to help eligible students fill the financial gap. The SEIU Free College Benefit covers the difference between any federal, state, or employer education grants you receive and the cost of tuition, fees, and e-books.



Associate's Degrees or Certificates available from Eastern Gateway Community College:

- Accounting
- Business Management (with certificates in Advertising, Cyber Security, Data Science, Digital and Social Media, Entrepreneurship, Finance, General Management, Healthcare Management, Hospitality, Human Resources, Information Systems, Labor Studies, or Programming and Development)
- Criminal Justice
- Teacher Education
- Individualized Study
- Paralegal
- Patient Home Navigator
- Healthcare Administration (Associate of Arts)
- Healthcare Services
- Paralegal Certificate

Eligible SEIU members and family members may also enroll in other online programs at EGCC such as Medical Coding, Health Information Management, IT, Fire Science and more, but students may be required to pay for the strict industry-recognized content for some courses.



Bachelor's Degrees available from Central State University:

- Business Administration
- Criminal Justice
- Education – Early Childhood Education
- Education – Intervention Specialist

Read the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) or call 1-855-469-SEIU (7348) toll free to talk to an advisor.

To review enrollment information and other information about this program, [click here!](#)

2021 SEIU Local 517M Calendars Are Here!

Click on the link below to download the state employee or school and local government versions of the 2021 SEIU Local 517M calendar.

[State Employee Calendar](#)

[School and Local Government Calendar](#)

State Employees, Save Time and Reauthorize Your Membership Today!

By Dave Corrie, SEIU Staff

October - 2022						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Reauthorizations can be made now that won't expire until October 14, 2022! It's not too early to get peace of mind that your membership is protected until 2022! Login into the [HR Self-Service Portal](#) or call the HR Service Center at 1-877-766-6447 and extend your membership to 2022.

For a step-by-step guide on how to reauthorize using a computer, [click here!](#)

On a Mobile Device?

Civil Service has launched a mobile-friendly platform that can be accessed on the HR Gateway by [clicking here](#).

On the main screen under "Log In" you will see a variety of options and on the far right click the icon with a cell phone that says "Union Dues Mobile Authorization".

It will take smartphone and tablet users directly to the reauthorization transaction on their device. This new button is for mobile users only; selecting it on a computer will instruct the user to log in to HR Self-Service to complete the transaction, following the instructions above. If you experience issues accessing Union Dues Mobile Authorization from your device, please complete the transaction on a computer through HR Self-Service.

To reauthorize:

1. Log in through the Mobile Authorization Portal
2. From the main screen, in the upper left hand corner select **Bookmarks >> Employee Self-Service >> Pay >> Dues Payroll Deduction**.
3. A new screen will open, on the far right select "**Re-authorize continued deduction for an additional year through 10/14/2022**", then [click the submit button](#).
4. A new screen will open asking you to **authorize your reauthorization**. [Click authorize](#).
5. Once completed a confirmation will be sent to your email.

Planning on Retiring Soon? Stay Active in Your Union!

By Dave Corrie, SEIU Staff



Did you know that you can continue your SEIU membership when you retire? By joining the SEIU 517M Retirees Group you can continue to receive information from the Union, attend union events and continue your access to SEIU Member Only Benefits.

SEIU 517M is also involved with the Coalition for a Secure Retirement (CSR) which advocates for protection and improvements for pensions and retirement related issues.

Please consider joining as a retiree member of SEIU and stay active in your Union and have a continued voice in your retirement.

[View information on the program and learn how to join!](#)