



## MTA Trainings for New Members

- **Early Career Educator Conference**  
This annual conference brings together early career and aspiring educators for a full day of professional development. This is one of the New Member Committee's flagship events.
- **CREDIT COUNSELING AND LOAN FORGIVENESS:** New members often have student debt. This up to 75-minute training provides guidance on how to handle debt while qualifying for loan forgiveness. Various dates and times August-December, sign up here: [Student Loan Webinars | MTA Benefits](#)
- **EVALUATION TRAINING for First Year Licensed Educators:** This 90-minute training covers the basics of the Evaluation Process for licensed educators in PreK-12 locals.
- **PROFESSIONAL TEACHER STATUS (PTS):** 45-minute training on how teachers acquire PTS, and what their rights are before they get PTS.
- **ESPs: RIGHTS ON THE JOB:** This is a 30-45 minute training on the rights of ESPs both before and after they may pass a probationary period. It covers anti-discrimination laws, union rights, contractual rights, the evaluation process, and whistle-blower protections.

### HIGHER ED TRAININGS:

- **Adjunct Faculty: OBRA Investment Changes**  
Discussion of new opportunities for investing for Retirement through the OBRA program from MA Smart Plan.
- **Unemployment Insurance and Paid Family Medical Leave for Adjunct Faculty**  
This 90-minute, Zoom training, explores Massachusetts's application process for Unemployment Insurance and for Paid Family Medical Leave. The training addresses potential issues that Adjunct Faculty may face in accessing these benefits.
- **Getting a Raise as a Public Sector Union Member**  
The process of bargaining raises and getting contracts funded in Higher Education in Massachusetts can be confusing. This interactive class breaks down all of the steps in Higher Ed contract funding from getting the "parameters" to putting raises in members' paychecks. Topics discussed will include things that can derail the process and how members can exert influence at the appropriate points.

- **What New Members Need to Know About Retirement**

This workshop is for faculty and professional staff at the UMass, State University and Community College systems. The defined benefit retirement (State Retirement Board) option and the defined contribution retirement (Optional Retirement Plan) option are compared, discussing the pros and cons of each. The last portion of the session is dedicated to answering your questions about your options.

- **Higher Ed Conference**

### **OTHER WORKSHOPS & TRAININGS:**

- **CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE:** 90-minute training explaining the sometimes labyrinthian process of getting a teaching license in Massachusetts. **January, February and March 2024 - [register here.](#)** Outside of these trainings, [here is a page full of licensure resources.](#) Specific question? Email [licensure@massteacher.org](mailto:licensure@massteacher.org).
- **RETIREMENT 101:** This 1 hour seminar is a primer on retirement in Massachusetts. It's never too early to learn about your pension.
- **403(b)Wise:** [Monthly seminar](#) on the dos and don'ts of 403(b) plans, and [self paced learning modules.](#)
- **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** The MTA sponsors a few all-day sessions of Professional Development such as the Summer Conference in August and the **Early Career Educator Conference on November 4th.** Other PD may be available in your local by request.
- **Winter Union Skills:** February 10 in Framingham. Come learn about topics such as negotiations, grievances and union organizing. There will be a training on **Engaging New Members.**

**To schedule any of these trainings please contact  
New Member Organizer Josh Levit: [jlevit@massteacher.org](mailto:jlevit@massteacher.org)**



**Scan code for links!**