

What Membership in the PFT Means



Membership and Affiliations

You are now a member of the Pittsburgh Federation of Teachers (PFT), the professional organization that is the elected and recognized sole and exclusive bargaining representative for all teachers, counselors, nurses, social workers, psychologists, adjunct teachers, preschool teachers, and other non-supervisory professional employees; all paraprofessionals; all technical-clerical employees; and all Pittsburgh/Mt. Oliver Intermediate Unit #2 teachers/professionals employed by the Pittsburgh Public Schools/Pittsburgh-Mt. Oliver Intermediate Unit #2.

You are a member of the organization that has negotiated outstanding collective bargaining agreements affecting and benefiting all Pittsburgh teachers, paraprofessionals, technical-clerical personnel, and IU#2 personnel.

This also means you are a member of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) and of AFT Pennsylvania. You are also affiliated with the AFL-CIO on both the national and state levels, and the Allegheny County Central Labor Council.

You are eligible for continued full PFT membership or for membership in the PFT Retiree Chapter after your retirement. You are automatically a lifetime member of the AFT after your retirement.

Personal and Group Protections

You are covered by group Liability Insurance coverage negotiated by the PFT and provided by your employer.

You are automatically covered under a PFT-AFT provided personal accidental death benefit.

Participation in PFT Activities

You are able to be an active participant in all PFT activities including:

- Voting in the election of PFT Officers and convention delegates
- Formulation and ratification of contract proposals, voting on possible strike authorization, and voting on ratification of final contract terms
- Setting of PFT policy in such areas as dues structure, Constitution and By-Laws, resolutions, and referenda
- Attendance at PFT Membership meetings and other events
- Eligibility for various positions of responsibility in the PFT including building representative, committee memberships, Executive Board positions, grass roots committees, etc.
- Eligibility for election as PFT delegates to AFT and AFT Pennsylvania conventions and for selection as PFT representatives at various AFT and AFT Pennsylvania programs and workshops
- Participation in PFT Political Action programs and activities; and PFT-sponsored social activities
- Access to Educational Research & Dissemination (ER&D) program, conducted in cooperation with the AFT and Pittsburgh Public Schools

Eligibility for Benefits and Insurances

You have the right to take advantage of various discount arrangements for PFT members.

You can purchase the PFT-sponsored group auto insurance, home owners insurance, and the group disability income insurance – all through payroll deduction.

You can purchase various AFT “Group Insurance Plans,” such as life insurance and income protection insurance.

You can participate in the AFT-sponsored MasterCard credit card program.

You can participate in all benefit programs sponsored by the AFT and AFT Pennsylvania.

You, your spouse, children, and grandchildren are eligible for tuition-free online Community College.

Publications and Communications

You receive all PFT letters, reports, and special communications to members.

You receive the “American Teacher,” the AFT newspaper; and the “American Educator,” the AFT professional journal.

You receive all special AFT and AFT Pennsylvania communications to members.

You may opt-in to receive twice weekly PFT e-mail updates (Nina’s Notes and Tuesday news blast), access to the PFT Facebook and Twitter pages, and text blast updates.

