



Transportation Communications Union/IAM

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers



God Bless America

Robert A. Scardelletti, *National President*

Social Services Department

Arthur Maratea, *NVP/Special Assistant to National President*

Ellen Conboy, *Executive Director/National Representative*

File: 566-2
Subject: Union Plus Free College Benefit
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TO ALL NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES,
ASSISTANT NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES
AND LOCAL LODGE OFFICERS

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Through the new Union Plus Free College Benefit program, TCU/IAM members and their families can receive a college education with no out-of-pocket expenses. Eligible applicants can earn an Associate Degree – online, for free, as long as their financial aid file is complete.

Under an academic partnership with Eastern Gateway Community College, Union Plus offers grants known as “last dollar scholarships” that fill the gap between any federal, state and employer education grants for tuition, fees, and e-books for certain online programs at Eastern Gateway.

Eastern Gateway Community College is a fully accredited, non-profit public institution that is part of the University System of Ohio. Students can enroll in the distance learning program from anywhere in the U.S. The program currently offers seven associate degrees and two certificate programs, and credits can be transferred to a four-year college.

Please distribute the attached flyer to ensure that TCU/IAM members are aware of this new Union Plus benefit and to learn more about how to apply, and the types of degree and certificate programs available. Union members may visit: unionplusfreecollege.org or call 1-888-590-9009 to speak with an Enrollment Advisor.

In solidarity,

Robert A. Scardelletti
National President

Attachment

cc: Executive Council

Carmen Division

Department Directors

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In Partnership with AFSCME

FREE COLLEGE BENEFIT

**Union members and their families
can earn an Associate Degree
with NO out-of-pocket cost.**



FREE COLLEGE BENEFIT FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

The Union Plus Free College Benefit offers working families an accessible, debt-free and convenient higher education opportunity. You, your spouse, children, financial dependents and grandchildren, can all take advantage of this exciting opportunity.



ZERO OUT-OF-POCKET COST

Members and their families can earn an Associate Degree online, with no out-of-pocket costs. A last-dollar scholarship covers the difference between any Federal grants and your tuition, fees and e-books at EGCC.



EASTERN GATEWAY CREDITS ARE TRANSFERABLE

Eastern Gateway Community College is a public, non-profit school in the University System of Ohio and is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Credits you earn can transfer to other schools, potentially saving you thousands of dollars.



1-888-590-9009
unionplusfreecollege.org

Free College is possible thanks to the early support and enthusiasm of AFSCME, who entered into a collaboration with Eastern Gateway Community College in 2016.

HIGHER EDUCATION IN JUST 4 STEPS



1

APPLY TO EASTERN GATEWAY

Go to unionplusfreecollege.org, select the "Get Started" button and complete the request information form with your contact and union information (for membership verification).

2

COMPLETE THE FREE FAFSA

Complete the form online: FAFSA.ed.gov
Eastern Gateway Community College school code: **007275** The FAFSA application is a requirement. If it's determined that you are not eligible for federal or state financial aid, a "last-dollar" scholarship will be applied to your remaining balance for tuition, fees and e-books.

Your FAFSA may be chosen for additional verification by the Dept. of Education. Compliance is required to receive the scholarship. Your enrollment advisor can help you with the process.

3

SUBMIT YOUR TRANSCRIPTS

Submit your high school transcript or GED test score as proof of high school completion. Official transcripts must be sent directly from the school to:

Email: online@egcc.edu (Subject: UnionPlus)

Mail: EGCC Admissions
Attn: UnionPlus
101 Federal Plaza East
Youngstown, OH 44503

Fax: 330-480-0817 (Attn: UnionPlus)

If you have completed any college coursework, have the transcript sent to EGCC. Applicable college credits will be transferred to the new program.

4

ENROLL IN CLASSES

Work with an enrollment advisor to enroll in classes.

1-888-590-9009
unionplusfreecollege.org



The Higher Education Benefit covers the cost of tuition, fees and books after any PELL or other federal grant, or employer reimbursement is applied. The remaining amount will be cleared with the Free College scholarship. As long as your financial aid file is complete, there is no cost to the student and students are never asked to take out any loans.