

# Frequently Asked Questions

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## What are Union Dues?

Union dues in UE are among the lowest dues in the country. We keep our dues low because we don't payout big executive salaries to officers or staff - we believe that if you are paid like the boss, you think like the boss. Staff cannot make more than the highest paid member of the union.

Dues are typically **2.5 hours of the average wage a month** for a full time worker (part time workers pay half dues), and are set by your local union. For example, if the average wage is \$15 per hour, dues will be \$37.50 per month. You will not pay dues until you have a contract with your employer that you vote to approve.

## When Do Union Dues Start?

**You Will Not Pay Union Dues Until a Union Contract is Signed. No Union Contract will be signed until You Vote on It.** UE dues are among the lowest in the labor movement, and No UE dues are spent on endorsing political parties candidates or political parties.

## Why Pay Union Dues?

By joining the union, and agreeing to pay union dues you are helping set up your own worker-controlled "war chest" to have resources to organize your co-workers to take on the boss and win improvements. The boss has resources to keep you down, shouldn't you have resources to push back? A large portion of dues collected stay with your local union so that you can run your own affairs. No dues money is spent endorsing political parties or candidates.

**All dues collected by city workers in Newport News will go directly to a Treasurer, who is a city worker union member that you elect**, who will open a local bank account. All checks from the union must be co-signed by the Local President (another city worker you elect) and the Treasurer.

A portion of those dues go to the national union who will then provide a field staff to support you in everything you need. The National Office also supports the Locals through our various departments such as Organizing, Legal, Education and Research. Being part of a national union allows you access to lots of training opportunities to better your skills. It also brings you support of people experienced in bargaining good union contracts with the City.

## How do I get more Involved?

Excellent! The more people involved will help ensure that you get the improvements that you seek in your current working conditions. Call **Dante at 757-632-7866 or Charles at 757-842-3000** or contact your **Organizing Committee member** in the workplace.



Dante: (757) 632-7866  
Charles: (757) 842-3000



[organize.ueunion.org/newport-news](https://organize.ueunion.org/newport-news)

