Engaging our members, growing our union

The strength of our union comes from informed, engaged members in our more than 400 locals, councils, and chapters across the state. When members come together with one powerful voice, we positively impact our professions and the lives of the students and citizens we serve.

Worksite leaders work with members on the front lines in schools, offices, and other IFT workplaces, and they play a vital role in keeping members informed and active. IFT has created the Worksite Leader (WSL) training program to help you fulfill this critical role.

“What will I learn?”

01 Union 101
Learn about the responsibilities and role of a worksite leader.

02 Communications and Information
Learn how to improve communication skills; review tools and methods for maintaining data.

03 Worksite Advocacy
Learn about the key areas of member advocacy including gripes and grievances, member representation, contract enforcement, and more.

04 Mobilization and Engagement
Learn how to use one-on-one conversations to recruit, engage, and mobilize members.

05 Political, Legislative, and Community Engagement
Learn how the union makes policy and political decisions; understand the importance of legislative, political, and community engagement.

“Worksite leader training helped me see how important it is to establish one-on-one connections with coworkers.

I hope to eventually pursue additional leadership positions and serve on committees in my local; I have so many new ideas now and have been strengthened by becoming a WSL graduate.”

Terri Berg
WSL graduate, IFT Local 6099

Learn more at
ift-aft.org/WSL
Become a WSL graduate and take the next step towards strengthening your local and the IFT!

What is the WSL program?
The IFT’s Worksite Leader (WSL) training program is a series of five courses, or modules. Each module provides a strong foundation of knowledge and skills needed for worksite leaders to be effective. When a worksite leader completes all five modules, he or she is considered a graduate of the WSL program.

How will the WSL program help me?
The program will provide the knowledge and skills needed to do the job of worksite leader. You will learn technical information, be provided with examples and templates to help you approach the work, be given opportunities to practice new skills, and have time to talk through the challenges you face as a worksite leader with others who are also doing this important work.

How do I complete the WSL courses?
It’s easy to complete the five modules and become a WSL graduate! Each module lasts one to three hours, and the courses do not have to be completed at one time.

WSL modules are offered annually in your region and at the IFT Union Leadership Institute. They may also be provided specifically for your local. For a current schedule, visit ift-aft.org/WSL. You can also contact your local or council president or IFT Field Service Director to learn more about WSL training and how to register.