

Become a Member Organizer

this *Summer*



“I like talking with fellow workers, hearing about their joys and frustrations, and learning how we can change the world together in our union. That’s why I loved being a Member Organizer last summer.”

— **Sasha Link**, adjunct faculty at Bridgewater State University and member of the Massachusetts State College Association and Association of Professional Administrators

What’s the job?

Member organizers visit MTA members who are not actively participating in the union. We find out about their personal experience on the job, help them feel connected to others facing the same issues, and talk with them about the empowerment we feel when we act together through our union. We ask them to get involved at their workplace and in bigger fights, such as the Fund Our Future campaign.

How do you gain the skills to do this job?

You are already an expert on issues in your workplace that motivate you as an activist. MTA and member organizers run an intensive three-day training for summer member organizers to learn how to discover other people’s issues and connect the issues to our power as a union. This summer, we’ll also be campaigning to Fund Our Future.

“During the summer months of 2018, I was able to speak with nonunion adjuncts across Western Mass. It was informative and inspiring. Many of the people that I talked to had so much to say, yet they had never had a venue to share in nor someone to listen. Listening is one of the most powerful tools we have in building relationships within the union and mobilizing for change. Through listening, conversations around kitchen tables and the sharing of resources, we were able to support one another and add more faces to our union family.”

— **Stephanie Marcotte**, adjunct faculty and president of the Holyoke Community College chapter of the Massachusetts Community College Council



See the back for a job description
and apply online at
massteacher.org/HigherEdOrganizer

This July, the MTA will be running its second Summer Member Organizer program for Higher Ed. Contacting, educating and engaging with members over the summer months are key to building our collective power to promote public higher education.

Those selected to work as member organizers will gain firsthand experience in organizing. Successful candidates will be enthusiastic and must have a strong desire to build the strength of our union. Members from all higher ed locals are welcome to apply. Adjunct and non-tenure-track faculty are especially encouraged to apply.

Each member organizer will be trained in specific organizing skills, including:

- Having one-to-one conversations
- Learning about issues and communities
- Educating about our plan to #FundOurFuture
- Asking nonmembers to join the union
- Inviting people to participate in our union and in campaign activities
- Identifying potential leaders and activists and connecting them to their local or chapter
- Using tools to collect information about people and issues (VAN and MiniVAN).

Ideal candidate

- Enthusiastic about talking with members
- Enjoys meeting prospective new volunteers to get them engaged
- Familiar with basic technology skills

Requirements of the job:

- Must be a member of MTA in Higher Ed
- Must have access to a computer or smart device and phone

Preferred/Good to have:

- Your own experience advocating for the *Promise Act and Cherish Act*



Commitment

The program will begin with a training in early July. Daily work consists of phone and on-line contact with MTA-represented higher ed workers. The actual hours will be planned with a coordinator. The program will run through August 28.

Compensation

The Member Organizer job is a temporary summer job. The compensation is \$500 per full week based on \$25 per hour (approximately 20 hours/week).

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