

Since 1942, the Harvard Trade Union Program has prepared union activists to meet the challenge of dynamic leadership within their unions and society. Today, the program helps union leaders develop keener analytical, managerial and problem-solving skills as well as discover ways to deepen public understanding of the value and importance of labor unions.

Over the program's 80 year history, it has trained many national union presidents from the United States and around the world.

Be a part of this long-standing tradition.

HTUP, Center for Labor and a Just Economy  
Harvard Law School

Attn: Center for Labor and a Just Economy  
Harvard Law School  
1585 Massachusetts Ave. Room B086  
Cambridge MA, 02138



# Harvard Trade Union Program

## 113<sup>th</sup> Session

January 12-February 13, 2026

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The Harvard Trade Union Program is an intensive 5-week executive training program designed for trade union leaders. It is comparable to the advanced education that Harvard University offers to executive level individuals in Business, Government, and Law.

The Harvard Trade Union Program welcomes a diverse group of union members with the ability and potential for future leadership in the labor movement. It teaches the essential skills for the management and leadership of unions, as well as providing a unique opportunity to explore key issues for the labor movement surrounded by dynamic classmates.



Students from HTUP Class of 2020

## Qualifications

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Applicants to the Program should have:

- Experience as an officer or staff member of a local, regional, or national union.
- The ability to learn in an academic environment.
- Financial sponsorship from their union or other source

## Admission

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Participants are expected to be in residence for the full term of the Program. Applications will be processed on a rolling basis and candidates will be notified as they are accepted.

We encourage applicants from diverse backgrounds, geographic regions and varieties of union experience. We are committed to the progress of women and diversity in the labor movement.

## Curriculum

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The curriculum is taught as a series of thematically related seminars and cases. The seminars feature exchanges with innovative practitioners and analysts in a variety of fields. The diverse selection of seminars provides an opportunity for participants to meet a variety of Harvard faculty, faculty from neighboring universities, and senior labor leaders to discuss selected topics of concern to labor and the world of work.

The core curriculum is designed to give all participants a grounding in a common set of themes, issues and skills. We offer the following core courses:

- Strategic Choices for Labor Union Leaders
- Leadership
- Themes in U.S. Labor History
- Capital Strategies for Labor

In addition to the core curriculum classes, the HTUP has six thematic curriculum areas. The classes in this area are primarily individual classes so the participants can experience a variety of topics and experts. The thematic curriculum areas include:

- Current Legal Issues
- Economic Issues
- Negotiations and Labor Relations
- Union Organizing and Capacity Building
- Technology
- Community Relations

## General Information

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### Housing

One bedroom apartments are provided for each participant located a short commute to the Harvard campus.

### Cost

The cost of tuition, including room, books and class materials is \$22,000.

Additional expenses, not covered by tuition include transportation to and from Cambridge, meals, laundry, recreation, and incidentals.

Many unions offer scholarships. Contact your union or us for more information.

## Apply

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Applying for the HTUP is a rolling admission. Application deadline is November 7, 2025. Complete the online form at <https://htup.law.harvard.edu/apply>

## Contact Us

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