



Important Update From Your Union

Greetings!

During this unprecedented situation, our first priority is to make sure our members are safe and healthy. Information about where to find accurate information about COVID-19 is at the bottom of this email.

Our union is working hard to make sure that employers across the Commonwealth, including your university, are providing their employees with the resources they need to function. The transition to online learning presents many challenges. To the best of our knowledge, your university has been proactive about providing many resources needed to make this change.

If you have questions that haven't been answered or needs that have not been addressed, please follow these steps:

1. **Review emails** you have received from the administration, your department/program, and your supervisor. Many resources have been shared and it's very easy to overlook information.
2. **Check your school's website** for specific COVID-19 response plans and resources.
3. **Ask your supervisor, department chair, or program director for assistance.** The expectation is that these administrators will assist faculty and graduate student workers with whatever needs they have to complete their work (including responding to student concerns).
4. **If you've followed all 3 steps and your questions still aren't answered or you haven't received the support you need, contact your stewards or staff organizer for assistance.** We can help elevate your specific concerns as needed. You can access a list of stewards and staff for your unit here: <http://www.seiu509.org/highered/>

We are hopeful that the administration will continue to respond quickly and with empathy to the needs of our members. Our union is also pursuing legislation to address some of the most serious concerns, such as the lack of paid sick time for many of our members. **Please look for continued updates, as we may need your help to make these changes happen at the University, local, and state level. We will also post resources for Higher Ed members on our [Local 509 COVID-19 response page](#) as they become available.**

(Bentley Adjuncts: Please see the Higher Ed section of the [Local 509 COVID-19 response page](#) for information about accessing your university's Employee Assistance Program).

Finally, below are two resources that have been shared with advice regarding online learning. Please review at your discretion and use your best professional judgement regarding incorporating these into your teaching plans:

[Teaching Effectively During Times of Disruption](#)

[Teaching in the Context of COVID-19](#)

In solidarity,

Jaime Wilson
Higher Education Chapter President

LOCAL 509 COVID-19 RESPONSE

To get the latest updates for SEIU Local 509 members on the COVID-19 outbreak, [follow us on Facebook](#) and [check our COVID-19 Response page](#) on our website.

If you have any questions or concerns about changes at your worksite, contact your steward, [a union representative](#), or call the Member Action Resource Center at 1-800-632-8079.

SEIU Local 509

Union Office: (774) 843-7509

Member Action Resource Center: 1-800-632-8079

connect@seiu509.org

www.seiu509.org

Connect with us on social media!

