

Safe and Equitable Protections for All Working People and Our Most Vulnerable Populations

Everyone deserves the right to a safe, healthy workplace and learning environment. We can come together across race and across place to ensure we are all treated with dignity and respect. Educators can unite with other unions, workers, and communities to demand justice.

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY

- ▶ Deploy support teams uniting public health, social services, food and agriculture, housing and community development, aging, and business agencies.
- ▶ Develop culturally- and linguistically-accessible communications and resources for diverse communities.
- ▶ Address barriers to testing and treatment including availability and costs.
- ▶ Train bilingual, bicultural contact tracers and case investigators.
- ▶ Childcare for first responders and healthcare personnel, nutrition program for students, and other social services necessary to preserve and maintain life, health, property, or the public peace.
- ▶ Provide a weekly disaster stipend for working parents to stay home with their children without losing pay.
- ▶ Learn about the specific needs of Indigenous people, Black and brown people, LGBTQ relatives, educators, freelancers, undocumented and documented immigrants, and low-income workers, and work towards answering these needs as rapidly as possible.
- ▶ Recognize all workers on the front line during the COVID-19 crisis, such as grocery store workers, postal service workers, and educators, through a substantial increase in wages and benefits.



SOCIAL SAFETY NET

- Call on state and federal government officials to immediately release funds to support our vulnerable student and family populations.
- Demand that city, county, and state officials create a healthy, socio-economic safety net for our students, working families and communities.
- Extend unemployment insurance for people whose hours are reduced due to COVID-19 and a basic income subsidy to those workers not covered by unemployment laws.
- Provide funding for universal childcare as we navigate the reopening of schools in the midst of the pandemic.

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

- Advocate for debt forgiveness, suspended rent and mortgage payments, as well as eviction court and utility shutoffs.
- Provide safe shelter, healthcare services and support for all, including students, who are suffering from homelessness.

HEALTHCARE AND PAID SICK LEAVE

- Remove of all economic barriers for COVID-19 testing and treatment, including eliminating all insurance co-payments and deductibles.
- Require paid family and medical leave for all workers, including municipal workers, either through their employer or a state system, to cover any needed self-quarantining to reduce the spread of the virus.
- Provide additional paid sick days each year to all workers to align with quarantine period for COVID-19; additional paid time off for those who do not have paid sick days with their employers.

UNDOCUMENTED/IMMIGRANT JUSTICE

- Create an economic relief fund specifically for undocumented residents excluded from federal stimulus.
- Cease ICE arrests/deportations; release vulnerable populations, demilitarizing and decarcerating non-violent offenders and political prisoners from jails, prisons, and detention centers.
- Ensure that undocumented individuals are included in any universal basic income distribution with added support for path to citizenship.



HOMELESS STUDENTS

- ▶ Open up school facilities (i.e., washrooms, locker rooms, computer labs, libraries, and gyms) before and after school hours for student use.
- ▶ Provide washers and dryers for student use.
- ▶ Hire additional staff whose responsibilities include finding and re-engaging homeless students and connecting them to services like housing, food assistance, and child care.
- ▶ Provide professional development focused on identifying and educating homeless students to all educators.
- ▶ Purchase pre-paid cell phones to keep homeless families connected to the school community.
- ▶ Utilize school vehicles to conduct outreach and supply drops to local motels, campgrounds, food banks, and homes with doubled-up students.
- ▶ Hire additional school counselors to assist students with credit recovery, graduation, and college transition.
- ▶ Hire additional school psychologists to screen for and address trauma.
- ▶ Provide professional development to all educators on trauma-informed training.

MORE INFO/RESOURCES

Navigating COVID-19 Pandemic
[EducatingThroughCrisis.org](https://www.educatingthroughcrisis.org)



EDUCATING
THROUGH CRISIS
COVID-19