



United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the
Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada

Three Park Place • Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(410) 269-2000 • Fax (410) 267-0262 • <http://www.ua.org>

Founded 1889

General Office File Reference: GP/GST

Mark McManus
General President

Patrick H. Kellett
General Secretary-Treasurer

Michael A. Pleasant
Assistant General President

February 10, 2020

We are pleased to introduce you to a new **United Association Free College Benefit** that is being offered as an additional benefit to our members and their families. As you know, The United Association has always supported and prioritized education for our members and has strongly advocated for promoting affordable tuition for working families.

Today we are introducing our members and their families to a way to work toward obtaining a college degree for **free!** We have partnered with Eastern Gateway Community College to offer you this great opportunity. Eastern Gateway Community College is a public, non-profit, regionally accredited school that offers UA members and their families a path toward obtaining an Associate degree.

All course work is done online, and there is no out-of-pocket cost to you for tuition, fees or books. Through our partners at Union Plus, the **United Association Free College Benefit** combines PELL or other federal grants with employer reimbursement, then covers any remaining costs for your tuition, fees and online books. All students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), but even if you are not eligible for any federal or employer grants, there is absolutely no cost to you, the member, and you will never be asked to take out any loans. Perhaps best of all is that the **United Association Free College Benefit** is available to you, your spouse, your children, grandchildren, stepchildren, step grandchildren, parents, siblings, sons and daughters-in-law, as well as other financial dependents.

Over half of all college students choose community college to begin their higher education. The courses offered are regionally accredited and transferable, and the college will work with your Institution to ensure that any previous college work or relevant work or military experience counts toward your degree.

A very important aspect of this benefit is the support you will receive. When you call, you will be assigned a staff member who will guide you through the process of applying and assist you in signing up for your courses. Everyone at Eastern Gateway Community College is focused on helping UA members achieve their personal education goals on their schedule and at their own pace.

I urge you to take advantage of this exciting new benefit. Call the **UA Free College Hotline** at 888-590-9009 or log on to www.UnionPlusFreeCollege.org to find out more.

Fraternally yours,

Mark McManus
General President

Patrick H. Kellett
General Secretary-Treasurer





FREE COLLEGE BENEFIT

United Association members and their families can earn an Associate Degree with NO out-of-pocket cost.



FREE COLLEGE BENEFIT FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

The Union Plus Free College Benefit offers working families an accessible, debt-free and convenient higher education opportunity. You, your spouse, children, financial dependents and grandchildren, can all take advantage of this exciting opportunity.



ZERO OUT-OF-POCKET COST

Members and their families can earn an Associate Degree online, with no out-of-pocket costs. A last-dollar scholarship covers the difference between any Federal grants and your tuition, fees and e-books at Eastern Gateway Community College (EGCC).



EASTERN GATEWAY CREDITS ARE TRANSFERABLE

Eastern Gateway Community College is a public, non-profit school in the University System of Ohio and is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Credits you earn can transfer to other schools, potentially saving you thousands of dollars.



1-888-590-9009
unionplusfreecollege.org

Free College is possible thanks to the early support and enthusiasm of AFSCME, who entered into a collaboration with Eastern Gateway Community College in 2016.

HIGHER EDUCATION IN JUST 4 STEPS

1

APPLY TO EASTERN GATEWAY

Go to unionplusfreecollege.org, select the "Get Started" button and complete the request information form with your contact and union information (for membership verification).

2

COMPLETE THE FREE FAFSA

Complete the form online: FAFSA.ed.gov
Eastern Gateway Community College school code: **007275** The FAFSA application is a requirement. If it's determined that you are not eligible for federal or state financial aid, a "last-dollar" scholarship will be applied to your remaining balance for tuition, fees and e-books.

Your FAFSA may be chosen for additional verification by the Dept. of Education. Compliance is required to receive the scholarship. Your enrollment advisor can help you with the process.

3

SUBMIT YOUR TRANSCRIPTS

Submit your high school transcript or GED test score as proof of high school completion. Official transcripts must be sent directly from the school to:

Email: online@egcc.edu (Subject: UnionPlus)

Mail: EGCC Admissions
Attn: UnionPlus
101 Federal Plaza East
Youngstown, OH 44503

Fax: 330-480-0817 (Attn: UnionPlus)

If you have completed any college coursework, have the transcript sent to EGCC. Applicable college credits will be transferred to the new program.

4

ENROLL IN CLASSES

Work with an enrollment advisor to enroll in classes.



1-888-590-9009
unionplusfreecollege.org


UNIONPLUS

The Higher Education Benefit covers the cost of tuition, fees and books after any PELL or other federal grant, or employer reimbursement is applied. The remaining amount will be cleared with the Free College scholarship. As long as your financial aid file is complete, there is no cost to the student and students are never asked to take out any loans.