

December 2023

FINISHED

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What is the AFA?

It's your union, protecting and fighting for the rights of all adjuncts covered under the bargaining agreement between the college and the AFA (anyone teaching at least six LHE's in any of the three previous terms).

Spring 2024 Payroll Dates

1/19, 2/2, 2/16, 3/1, 3/15,
3/29, 4/12, 4/26, 5/10, 5/24
AFA dues are taken out of
the 4th and 5th paychecks.

Oakton Board of Trustees Meetings

1/16, 2/20, 3/19, 4/16, 5/21, 6/25,
8/20 in the DP Board Room

AFA Open Office Hours TBA

AFA Board Meetings TBA



Grades In? You did it!

Looking Ahead to Spring Term

Do I have to attend Orientation Week?

We are required to attend department meetings scheduled during orientation week, paid at .022 LHE per clock hour. The other sessions during Orientation Week are not mandatory; *however*, if you attend three hours of sessions, you can be paid .048 LHE's. The Opening Day keynote address and breakout sessions as well as the other workshops and attendance at the faculty retreat count toward these hours. The required department meetings are not part of this package, and attendance at the AFA meeting is not paid.

The Opening Day Program is in-person at the DP campus in the 1600 rooms. Transport will be offered from the Skokie campus to Des Plaines.

Spring AFA Membership Meeting

The Spring Membership Meeting is on Wednesday January 10 from 3:45 to 5 on Zoom.

Wednesday, Jan. 10, Is Shambles

'Shambles' is the former but still commonly used name for the day when classes with insufficient enrollment are dropped from the schedule. Keep checking the enrollment in your classes and take screenshots. You will be paid for the highest number of students that enrolled in your class even if one or more later drop – but you need proof. Be sure to communicate with your chair if you are willing to teach on head count.

Be a Student Again

You or a member of your family - children, domestic partner, and spouse-by marriage or civil union living in the same household - can get a tuition waiver for up to 4 College credit courses per semester and 2 in summer. Learn to sing, draw, do graphic design, learn a new language – what is on your bucket list?

Ever Had a Student with No Textbook?

[The library will scan the first chapters of your textbooks](#) and/or an article; they will become part of an online Library Resource List that can be accessed by students through D2L.

In addition, why not email your students now and let them know what texts you'll be using so that they can be ordered online now.

activities. Eligible expenses include:

- professional association memberships
- tuition and fees for courses (including graduate and certification courses)
- registration fees, travel and related expenses for workshops and conferences
- expenses to update qualifications
- technology expenses that support teaching (e.g., software, headphones, microphones, webcams, and computers) up to \$200 per year (counts toward \$375 annual limit)

There Is Money Out There

We can be reimbursed up to \$375 for expenses incurred for professional development

purchasing anything, be sure to submit a request to use professional development funds for reimbursement to your dean. The dean will respond within two weeks and, if the request is denied, will give a written explanation

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Tell your students About FAFSA

This year's Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will be available Dec. 31. Students need to fill FAFSA every year, so if they will attend classes and need financial help during the 2024-2025 academic year. Please encourage them to visit studentaid.gov to complete the application.

If a student doesn't not qualify for federal financial aid, they should check out the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid at [studentportal.isac.org/alternativeapp, open](https://studentportal.isac.org/alternativeapp,open) at the same time as the FAFSA.

If you are a federal Pell Grant recipient whose financial aid exceeds tuition and fees may request a book voucher. Book vouchers can only be used to purchase textbooks and required educational supplies at Oakton's bookstores. Vouchers also may be requested by students who have a scholarship that may be used for books and/or supplies. Grant funds for textbooks are also available through a unique textbook program sponsored by the Student Government Association. The Textbook Purchase Program application is available [here](#).

Welcome to New AFA Members!

Paula Jenkins in Business and Career Technology

Mary O'Kerns in English

Sonia Cristoltean in STEM

Arleta Thursby in STEM

