



Illinois Federation of Teachers  
*A Union of Professionals*

Members fighting powerfully for a **strong union** and **the future we all deserve.**

## Union resources to help you start the year off right

Whether you are a new or veteran member, we want to remind you about all the ways that the IFT and your local union are here to support you as you head back to the classroom or workplace. From training opportunities to consumer benefits to the latest news that impacts your profession and community, we offer helpful resources to meet your needs.

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### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

IFT professional development programs are designed to enhance your workplace and union leadership skills. The longest-running and most popular of these is the [Union Leadership Institute](#), which offers three- and one-weekend trainings, as well as regional courses and a week-long summer program on a variety of topics. Learn more [here](#).

### **CLASSROOM RESOURCES**

[Share My Lesson](#) connects IFT/AFT members with other educators online 24/7 to share expert tips, lesson plans, and other useful content. Visit [sharemylesson.org](http://sharemylesson.org) to start using this great resource!

## **MEMBERS-ONLY BENEFITS**

Your union membership provides you with money saving benefits on consumer products and services through the [IFT](#), [AFT](#), and [Union Plus](#). From [free college tuition](#) for you and your family to mortgage programs to insurance discounts, IFT membership pays! Members also receive \$1 million in employment liability insurance. Learn more about your benefits [here](#). (Check with your local or worksite leader for benefits or discounts available through your local union, too.)

## **NEWS AND CONNECTIONS**

IFT members stay in-the-know on important news that impacts our professions and our union via [ift-aft.org](#) and the quarterly [Union Link](#) newsletter (by mail and online). When you're on the go, get news and connect on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). **NEW!** iOS users\* can also access news, engage with colleagues, and take action using the [IFT App](#) on their mobile devices. Download it [here](#). (\*The Android version is coming soon!)

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For more information about these programs, resources, and benefits, visit [ift-aft.org](#). (Questions about your employment contract or worksite? Contact your local union or worksite leader.)

By standing together in our union, we can provide the resources and support we all need to advocate for our students and communities. Together we are stronger! **#IFTstrong**

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