



Why Join Missouri NEA

The Leader in Public Education Employee Advocacy

U N I T E .
I N S P I R E .
L E A D .





WHO WE ARE

- We are the **teachers** who inspire a love of learning. We help children learn to read, write, think, solve problems, and prepare for a future we cannot even imagine.
- We are the **bus drivers** who safely bring children to school and back home.
- We are the **counselors** who help students solve problems and assist in their preparation for college and vocational programs.
- We are the **custodians** and the **maintenance personnel** who keep learning places clean and safe.
- We are the **coaches, musicians and artists** who teach children to shoot a basketball, play a trumpet, sing a song and illustrate their ideas.
- We are the **school nurses** who bandage skinned knees, teach children healthy life habits, and provide the on-site medical services students require.
- We are the **library specialists** who open the door to a world of information.
- We are the **cooks** who prepare healthy meals and the **secretaries** who manage the office, answer the phones and respond to students' and parents' questions and concerns.
- We are the **professionals** to whom our community entrusts its children every school day. We nurture and help them grow to be productive, contributing members of our changing society.
- We are the **support system** that helps teachers teach.
- We are the **special education professionals** who provide services for children with special needs.
- We are the **education employees** who love children, the art and science of teaching, and the opportunity to make a lasting contribution to the community.
- We are the **faculty at higher education institutions** who guide and challenge students in that final preparation for their careers.
- We are **college students** studying to be teachers with dreams of making a difference in the lives of students.
- We are **people who care deeply about providing a quality public education** for every child regardless of his or her zip code.
- We are **people who organize membership** so that our voice will matter when lawmakers and others need to hear it.
- We are the **people who stand up for what we believe** is best for the students entrusted to our care.
- We are **believers** in democracy; professionalism; partnerships; collective action and advocacy; a just society; and equity, dignity and respect for all.

We are **MISSOURI NEA.**



An affiliate of the 3 million member National Education Association, Missouri NEA offers a membership package second to none. Not only do you get the tools, resources and community of a national organization, but also you are a part of the nation's and state's most powerful voice for public education and the education profession.



HELP WHEN YOU NEED IT

Full-time trained professionals in offices throughout the state are **your front-line defense team** to help deal with a wide range of problems. Call your UniServ director at the first hint of trouble. Many situations can be resolved informally in the early stages when you have an experienced advocate by your side.

MNEA offers **collective bargaining assistance** for your salary, benefits, working conditions and job security. No other organization matches MNEA's expertise and experience on this issue.

LEGAL PERKS

\$4 Million Liability

Educators' employment liability coverage, automatic with membership, includes up to \$4 million in damages and legal fees for the defense of most job-related civil lawsuits and up to \$35,000 reimbursement for attorney fees in defending criminal charges arising out of job-related incidents.

Free Job Protection

- Every probationary teacher-member who is non-renewed has the option of receiving a legal consultation with an attorney to discuss the legal issues surrounding the non-renewal.
- Members who have a child abuse or neglect related complaint filed against them are entitled to legal advice/representation.
- Members who are subpoenaed to appear in court or administrative hearings related to what they might know or have seen in their jobs as teachers are entitled to consultation prior to testimony.
- Every member subject to RIF may receive a consultation with an attorney.
- Members who face challenges to their certification or are facing termination are entitled to legal advice and/or representation.

Defending Your Legal Rights

Through the Unified Legal Services Program, MNEA defends members' legal rights in and out of court. Through its UniServ program, MNEA vigorously defends members' rights.

Laws and school board policies spell out procedures to be followed in termination proceedings. MNEA challenges school districts that violate these procedures or act capriciously.

Members must access the ULSP program through their UniServ directors.

Free and Discounted Personal Legal Services

Members also get two free half-hour consultations with an attorney each year for personal matters, such as traffic violations, consumer protection, domestic relations, real estate issues and wills and estates. Additional time needed beyond your "free" time on these issues is billed to you at a 30 percent discount.

Visit www.nea.org/ARP for a complete, up-to-date list of participants in the MNEA Attorney Referral Program.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Find Missouri NEA's newest professional development opportunities at www.mnea.org/pr. To get monthly updates on MNEA news and professional development opportunities, subscribe to MNEA's e-newsletter *In the Loop*. Log into Members Only, and add your home email address to your profile.

Online Professional Development

NEA edCommunities

Connect with teachers around the country by joining NEA edCommunities. Find more than 200 active groups focused on key topics. Join an issue-focused group or a subject/grade-specific group. Sign up at www.myNEA360.org.

BetterLesson.com

NEA and BetterLesson joined forces to build a free website devoted to helping teachers succeed. The site brings together more than 200 K-12 Master Teachers, sharing standards-focused lessons just as they teach them in their classrooms every day for math, English language arts, science, and blended learning. The lessons are user-friendly, classroom ready and often include a video of what the instructional strategy looks like in a real classroom.

6-9 Graduate Credits for \$225

For one low annual fee of \$225, Missouri NEA members may take one course each term (fall, spring and summer) to complete up to three graduate courses in 12 months. Each course is two or three graduate credit hours. Choose from 17 self-paced, online courses for professional growth or salary advancement. MNEA partners with Central Methodist University and Virtual Education Software to offer these courses. We recommend members check with their school districts to be sure these courses will be accepted for salary-schedule credit before signing up.

Courses include:

- Advanced Classroom Management: Children as Change Agents
- Behavior is Language: Strategies for Managing Disruptive Behavior
- Teaching Diversity: Influences & Issues in the Classroom
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder: Information & Interventions for Effective Teaching
- Teaching Elementary Math Conceptually
- Talented and Gifted: Working with High Achievers
- Understanding Aggression: Coping with Aggressive Behavior in the Classroom

Other courses address traumatized children, educational assessment, learning disabilities, inclusion, substance abuse, violence in schools, harassment and bullying, child abuse, and autism and Asperger's disorder.

Beginning Teacher Programs

Missouri NEA is committed to helping new teachers succeed. From Beginning Teacher Assistance programs and mentor training to the beginning teacher listserv, MNEA takes a comprehensive approach to supporting new teachers.

"I Can Do It" Classroom Management

Earn your Beginning Teacher Assistance participation certificate required for teacher certification upgrade at one of MNEA's six-hour sessions. MNEA partners with Maryville University for this program. Get the most benefit by attending during your first year or two of teaching.

Start Smart Teacher Handbook

This handbook contains resources and information targeted to beginning teachers and their experiences. Pick up a hard copy from your local MNEA office, or access the book electronically at www.mnea.org/pr, under Certificated Staff. You must log in as a member to access Start Smart.

Ask the Expert

New teachers report classroom management advice as a top need. NEA edCommunities' Classroom Management group provides a safe space to ask questions and get suggestions from the real experts—fellow teachers. Join this free group at www.myNEA360.org.

Beginning Teacher Listserv

Through this network, beginning teachers get updates on opportunities for their students and their own professional growth. Sign up for this moderated electronic mailing list at www.mnea.org/Missouri/Listservs.aspx.

Grants and Grant Writing Support

Reliant Financial Services funds a \$500 tuition grant opportunity for MNEA members who are probationary teachers or education support professionals.

The NEA Foundation Learning and Leadership Grants enable educators to develop their professional practice to improve student learning. Student Success Grants fund projects that help students think critically and solve problems. Both grant programs offer \$2,000 and \$5,000 grants. Explore grant opportunities from other organizations as well as projects of past NEA Foundation grant recipients. Use the Writing Tutorial found at www.NEAFoundation.org to draft an effective grant proposal.

Through its Humanitarian Outreach Project for Education Fund, MNEA assists students and schools in financial need.

Find links to these grant opportunities and more at www.mnea.org/pr.

National Board Certification

From considering to completing and celebrating to leading, MNEA supports educators on their National Board journey and beyond. Those who have completed the process consider it the best professional growth they have ever experienced. Candidates and NBCTs can find information on opportunities at www.mnea.org/nbc.

NATIONAL BOARD

for Professional Teaching Standards®

BIG DISCOUNTS

Members-Only Discounts

Members Only hosts a network of more than 300,000 retail locations nationwide offering MNEA members everyday discounts and exclusive online shopping offers, including 300,000 discounts ranging from hotels to local dining, shopping, rental cars, travel and recreation, oil changes and new and used vehicles.

You will also find special pricing on group insurance programs, professional development opportunities, details on legal benefits and MNEA news.

Credit Cards

Apply for an NEA credit card and earn reward points that can be redeemed for cash, merchandise or travel that is not subject to blackout dates or limited travel partners. Visit www.neamb.com and choose the card that is best for you. You can even receive a \$150 credit with your new card and up to three percent cash back.

Money Markets and Savings Accounts

Discover how easy it is to save and earn higher rates with your online savings account, money market account or certificate of deposit with NEA-sponsored programs. Members earn a special \$20 bonus on each new account.

Click & Save

This exclusive online shopping service helps members and their families save on brand-name merchandise from hundreds of top retailers and online stores. In addition to discounts and special offers, each purchase earns members points that convert to cash to spend on future purchases.

Free Insurance

Members receive, at no cost to them, insurance coverage of \$50,000 for job-related accidental death and dismemberment; up to \$1,000 in basic life insurance; and up to \$5,000 for accidental death and dismemberment that is not job related. New members also receive a \$15,000 life insurance policy their first year, which may be kept (or increased) and converted to an individual ongoing plan.

Car Insurance

If you use MNEA's endorsed auto insurance, you pay zero deductible if your vehicle is vandalized or suffers collision damage while on or within 500 feet of school property, or while away from school on a school-authorized activity. This members-only benefit can save you \$250-\$500 per occurrence. MNEA members also get low group rates that are locked in for a year and can choose to pay over 10 or 12 months.

Renters/Homeowners Insurance

No matter where you choose to live, NEA covers you. Designed for educators, this policy offers coverage up to \$500 for lost or stolen fundraising cash or goods, \$3,000 for personal property used at school or at educational events away from home, and identity-theft protection at no cost.

Thanks to the buying power of 33,000 MNEA members and 3.2 million NEA members nationwide, you can save more than your dues by participating in these valuable money-saving programs.

Members and their families deserve the best. All programs are tailored to your needs with superior service being our top priority. Each program is carefully analyzed to ensure it meets MNEA's and NEA's rigorous standards for quality, value and service.

No dues dollars are used to provide these products to members.

Loans

Do you have debt you need to consolidate? Planning to purchase or refinance a home? Personal loans are available for \$5,000 to \$30,000 on your signature with affordable monthly payment terms up to 72 months and no application fees.



JUST FOR ESPs

As an education support professional, you are a key player on the education team that prepares Missouri's children for the future. Without you, kids wouldn't get extra help and attention, the bell wouldn't ring, the buses wouldn't run, the budgets wouldn't be finalized, the phones wouldn't be answered, nutritious meals wouldn't be served, and classrooms wouldn't be safe and clean.

Without you, education wouldn't happen. But these days it's getting harder and harder to do your job. School budgets are stretched to the breaking point, and you're expected to do more with less. Your association knows what you're up against and keeps you connected to your profession, to your peers and to your community.

You have Missouri NEA and NEA behind you, supporting you with advocacy, information and money-saving programs.

MNEA and NEA Help ESPs

- Bargain better contracts, meaning better pay and working conditions.
- Access professional development and leadership training.
- Find affordable coverage with life, disability, auto and home insurance programs.
- Get credit, loan, savings, investment and discount services.
- Have tough and effective representation in job-related disputes through MNEA's UniServ program.
- Speak out for their concerns in state legislatures and in the U.S. Congress.
- Stay informed through NEA and MNEA publications and websites.
- Let the local community know what you do for public education.
- Foster your access to and use of technology through training, grants, the Internet and educational materials.
- Fight the privatization of your work.

MISSOURI NEA/NEA ESP RESOURCES

The MNEA/NEA ESP Website Advantage

At www.mnea.org, you'll find information about MNEA, the latest news on issues important to public education and education employees, and information about professional development opportunities.

At www.nea.org/esp, MNEA members can take advantage of online tools and services. You'll find the latest information on everything from IDEA regulations to tips on how to prepare for an evaluation—in short, information, publications and resources you can't get anywhere else!

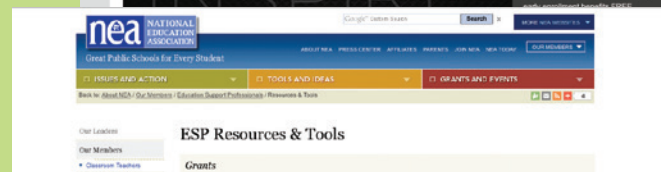
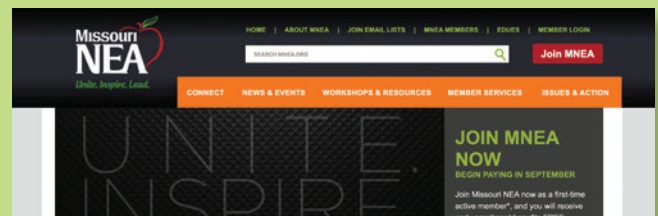
NEA and MNEA ESP Listservs

NEA's ESP listserv is an automated email list open to all NEA members. Listserv members use the ESP list to discuss issues that concern support professionals within the NEA. Sign up for this electronic mail network at www.nea.org/home/19594.htm.

MNEA's listserv, MO-NEA-ESP, offers a communication outlet just for MNEA ESPs. Sign up for this listserv at www.mnea.org.

National Council for ESPs

NCESP works within NEA to represent the specific interests of education support professionals. Any active NEA ESP member is eligible for membership. Find more information at www.nea.org.



INFORMATION

Missouri NEA Mobile App

Download the mobile app at www.mnea.org/mobileapp, or by searching for "Missouri NEA" on the Apple App Store or Android's Google Play store.



- Access MNEA support.
- Look up or add MNEA events to your calendar.
- Connect to the MNEA newsfeed for education news and teaching tips.
- Follow MNEA social media (Facebook, YouTube, Flickr and Twitter).
- Contact your legislators.
- Access the MyDeals app for 300,000 discounts on your smart phone.
- Register for training.
- Access your MNEA membership card and ID number.
- Purchase image items.
- Read MNEA publications.
- Get driving instructions to Missouri schools and MNEA offices.

Free Publications

Know what's going on in public education around the state and nation with MNEA and NEA publications and email lists. Among the print publications are *Something Better* and *NEA Today* magazines. Among the most popular electronic publications are *In the Loop*, a monthly newsletter to keep members informed of upcoming conferences and events, news, member benefits and other association information; and *Legislative Update*, a weekly newsletter (during the legislative session) covering the latest information on legislative action on MNEA's legislative priorities.

www.mnea.org

Missouri NEA's website aims at meeting the information needs of all MNEA members and potential members. Users can easily scroll through the home page and find popular items such as news, events, professional development and member savings. Featured stories scroll at the top of the page. Icons near the bottom of the home page help direct you to topics such as Legislative Action, Blogs, Help & Support, Online Training and more.



MNEA Social Media Quick Links

-  **Facebook**
[Facebook.com/MissouriNEA](https://www.facebook.com/MissouriNEA)
-  **Flickr**
[Flickr.com/photos/MNEA](https://www.flickr.com/photos/MNEA)
-  **Youtube**
[Youtube.com/MissouriNEAtube](https://www.youtube.com/MissouriNEAtube)
-  **Pinterest**
[Pinterest.com/MissouriNEA](https://www.pinterest.com/MissouriNEA)
-  **Twitter**
[Twitter.com/MissouriNEA](https://www.twitter.com/MissouriNEA) and
[Twitter.com/MNEAAvocate](https://www.twitter.com/MNEAAvocate)

YOUR VOICE AT THE CAPITOL

MNEA membership gives you a voice in policy making and decisions that improve education, fund public schools, reduce class size, ensure safe schools, secure technology resources, protect your retirement and the education profession, and expand community involvement in schools. In addition, MNEA delivers:

- Full-time lobbyists working on your behalf in the Missouri legislature and U.S. Congress
- An online Legislative Action Center that makes communication about education issues with your legislators easy
- Daily and weekly state and federal legislative updates when legislators are in session
- Campaigns to elect pro-education lawmakers and work to defeat dangerous ballot issues like Amendment 3, which aimed at evaluating teachers primarily on student performance mandating more testing and a one-size-fits-all approach to education



Missouri NEA Offices

Headquarters/Central

1810 East Elm Street
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Kansas City

4224 South Hocker Drive, Ste. 200
Independence, MO 64055

Springfield

1525 B West Sunshine
Springfield, MO 65807

St. Charles County

1011 Peruque Crossing Ct.
O'Fallon, MO 63366

St. Louis

955 Gardenvue Office Parkway
St. Louis, MO 63141

**Call or fax
any office at:**

(800) 392-0236
Fax (573) 634-5645

Learn more about MNEA

Visit www.mnea.org to learn more about Missouri NEA and its advocacy efforts to support public education and the education profession. To learn more about MNEA membership, call the regional office nearest you.

www.mnea.org