



November 14, 2022

**Dear Teamster Leader:**

The International Union has established the new Teamsters Scholarship Fund, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, to raise money for educational scholarships benefitting the children of Teamsters. We are holding our first fundraising dinner on January 14, 2023, in Orlando, Florida.

In an effort to avoid confusion, attached is a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document that will hopefully answer any questions that you may have about the new fund.

The Teamsters Scholarship Fund was created so that Teamster affiliates can make contributions to a fund that is under the oversight of the International Union with a Board of Trustees appointed by the General Executive Board.

The International Union will continue to advertise scholarship opportunities from the James R. Hoffa Memorial Scholarship Fund. But without International Union oversight, the General Executive Board believes that any further fundraising should be under the auspices of the Teamsters Scholarship Fund.

Thank you for supporting the Teamsters Scholarship Fund. I look forward to seeing you at the kick-off dinner in January.

*Fraternally,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S.M. O'Brien". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**Sean M. O'Brien**  
General President



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### **Why is the union starting its own Teamsters Scholarship Fund?**

The General Executive Board (GEB) is responsible for the stewardship of union monies and resources. The GEB appoints representatives to numerous boards of funds and other entities responsible for ensuring the sound management of member resources.

As the member-elected representatives of the union, the GEB believes that funds primarily raised through the solicitation of local unions and Joint Councils should be overseen by a board of trustees appointed by the GEB.

### **Why can't there just be one scholarship fund?**

The International Union contacted the JRHMSF to find a solution for the GEB to make appointments to the fund. The union was advised that the JRHMSF by-laws specifically prohibit the GEB from making appointments to the fund's board of directors or holding a majority of seats.

With resistance from the JRHMSF board and no path forward to bring the fund back under GEB financial oversight, the International Union established the Teamsters Scholarship Fund to ensure that the union continued to raise funds and distribute scholarships into perpetuity.

### **Why was the JRHMSF made independent of the International Union in 2016?**

The decision to remove the fund from GEB oversight and establish it as an independent 501(c)(3) organization followed legal inquiries and an investigation into fundraising activities of the JRHMSF.

From its inception in 1999 until 2016, the board of the JRHMSF included union, vendor, and employer representatives. The fund also was known to give away high-value gift packages and cash drawings during annual golf and poker tournaments in Las Vegas. These giveaways reduced the amount of funding

available for scholarship recipients. There were numerous legal concerns raised about the gift packages and cash winnings once regularly dispersed.

With so many conflicts of interest, the union's previous administration removed the JRHMSF from under the GEB. This ensured it could be shielded from independent investigation as well.

### **Who funded the JRHMSF?**

From 1999 until 2016, all JRHMSF administrative and operating costs were paid for by the International Union. The majority of funds raised at the golf and poker tournaments and dinners was paid for by local unions and Joint Councils either through event participation and sponsorship or the purchase of ads in an event ad book. Additional funds were raised by soliciting employers and union vendors for their sponsorship and participation. In 2016, the JRHMSF stopped accepting employer contributions.

### **Who sits on the board of directors of the James R. Hoffa Memorial Scholarship Fund?**

The JRHMSF Board of Directors are: Richard Bell, Tom Metzinger, Karen Roche, Neil Ditchek and Jim Hoffa. Bell and Metzinger are retired International Union staff members and Ditchek is a former International Union staff member. Karen Roche is an external financial advisor. All were handpicked by Hoffa when the JRHMSF was removed from International Union oversight in 2016. Hoffa was elected to the JRHMSF board following his retirement in 2022. No director has ever been a working Teamster member or elected to local union office.

### **How much money does the JRHMSF currently have?**

According to the most recent available IRS filing, the fund's net assets at the end of 2020 were \$17,952,491. The fund currently claims to have more than \$16,000,000 in funds.

### **How much money has the JRHMSF given away in scholarships?**

The fund states that they have given away more than \$14,000,000 in scholarships to the children and non-adult dependents of Teamster members. In 2022, the fund appears to have distributed \$1,201,000 in scholarships.

### **What will happen to the JRHMSF?**

According to a statement by the JRHMSF on September 21, 2022, the fund has "sufficient funding... to continue its assistance to Teamster children and financial dependents..."

The International Union will continue to promote JRHMSF applications as it always has – through the magazine, website, and social media platforms. The only change is that the International Union believes that new monies raised from Teamster affiliates should be directed to the Teamsters Scholarship Fund where appropriate union oversight of the funds will be maintained.

### **Does this mean I can apply for two different scholarships?**

Yes, the children and dependents (this does not include spouses) of Teamster members will be encouraged to apply for scholarships from the Teamsters Scholarship Fund and the JRHMSF.

### **How will the Teamsters Scholarship Fund raise money?**

The union will hold an annual dinner with Teamster affiliates to raise money for the new scholarship fund. All net proceeds from the event will go to Teamster scholarships. The first dinner will take place on January 14, 2023 in Orlando, FL.

### **Is the Teamsters Scholarship Fund a non-profit?**

Yes, the Teamsters Scholarship Fund is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit.

### **Who will pick the Teamsters Scholarship Fund recipients?**

An independent committee of university faculty members will select the scholarship recipients.

### **When will applications be available?**

The Teamsters Scholarship Fund will begin dispersing money to eligible high school seniors, who will be graduating in the Spring of 2024 and will begin their secondary education in the Fall of 2024. Applications will be available online December 4, 2023 with an application deadline of March 29, 2024.

### **How much money will the Teamsters Scholarship Fund disperse and how many recipients will there be?**

For the 2024-2025 academic year, the Teamsters Scholarship Fund will distribute at least \$1,200,000 through 600 one-time scholarships for students attending a four-year college or university or a community college, trade school or vocational school.

### **Does the Teamsters Scholarship Fund offer scholarships for K-12?**

No, scholarships are awarded to high school seniors planning to enroll in a four-year college after graduation, community college transfers and students who plan to attend trade or vocational school.

### **Are scholarships renewable?**

No, the scholarships are one-time awards.

### **Do I need to be the son, daughter, or financial dependent (this does not include spouses) of a Teamster member? (Includes members of the BLET, BMWED, GCC, and TCRC)**

Yes. To qualify for a scholarship, applicants must be the son, daughter or financial dependent (this does not include spouses) of a Teamster member (also referred to as "Teamster Member Relation") who qualifies (or in the case of retirees, has qualified)\*



**TEAMSTERS**  
*Scholarship Fund*

as a member in "good standing" in the Teamsters Union as defined in Article X, Section 5 of the International Constitution. (Includes members of the BLET, BMWED, GCC and TCRC) The children or financial dependents of full-time local union officers or full-time staff of local unions are ineligible.

**I completed and passed a General Education Development (GED) test. Am I eligible for a TSF scholarship?**

Yes. Students with a GED are eligible for TSF scholarships.

**Do you offer scholarships for prospective Community College Students?**

Yes. Students attending a training/vocational program can receive a scholarship if they are attending training or vocational non-baccalaureate programs (Associates programs typically.)

**I am a home-schooled student. Am I eligible to apply?**

Yes. As long as your home school program will issue you an official high school transcript to submit to the TSF, you are eligible to apply. Additionally, you

may submit a transcript produced by your program or the person in charge of your home schooling, however, the transcript must be signed by a credentialed teacher.

**What are training or vocational programs related to work in a Teamster represented industry, class or craft?**

There are no defined programs; however, to apply for the Training and Vocational Scholarship, the chosen program must be related to work in a Teamster represented industry, class or craft. These industries include: Airline; Brewery, Bakery & Soft Drink; Building Material & Construction Trade; Car-haul; Convention, Trade Show & Casino; Express; Food Processing; Freight; Graphic Communications; Industrial Trades; Motion Picture & Theatrical Trade; Package; Passenger Transportation; Public Services; Rail (locomotive engineering, maintenance of way); Solid Waste & Recycling; Tankhaul; and, Warehouse.



**TEAMSTERS**  
*Scholarship Fund*



## TEAMSTER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

### *Inaugural Reception*

6 p.m. | Saturday, January 14, 2023

Disney's Coronado Springs Resort

1000 West Buena Vista Drive • Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AND REGISTRATION

Name of Organization, Company, Local Union, or Joint Council \_\_\_\_\_

### DIGITAL DISPLAY SPONSORSHIP OPTIONS

All sponsorships and advertisements will be displayed digitally throughout this inaugural event, including during the cocktail reception, dinner, and program.

**INAUGURAL EVENT HOST**      **\$75,000**      **Availability: 1**

The Inaugural Event Host will receive primary digital display exposure and event sponsorship credentials. Digital ad and organization/company identity will be permanently displayed. Premier sponsorship language included on-site and online, during and following the event. Seating included: Three tables (30 seats)

**PLATINUM SPONSOR**      **\$50,000**      **Availability: 4**

Platinum sponsors will receive secondary digital displays and recognition, guaranteeing significant name and brand exposure throughout the evening. Digital ad and organization/company identity will be permanently displayed. Sponsorship language included on-site and online. Seating included: Two tables (20 seats)

**GOLD SPONSOR**      **\$35,000**      **Availability: 10**

Gold sponsors will receive full-screen digital ads on rotation, prominently placed. Digital display time: 45 minutes per hour. Sponsorship language included online. Seating included: Two tables (20 seats)

**SILVER SPONSOR**      **\$15,000**      **Availability: 10**

Silver sponsors will receive half-screen digital ads on rotation, prominently placed. Digital display time: 30 minutes per hour. Sponsorship language included online. Seating included: One table (10 seats)

**BRONZE SPONSOR**      **\$10,000**      **Availability: 25**

Bronze sponsors will receive half-screen digital ads on rotation. Digital display time: 15 minutes per hour. Sponsorship language included online. Seating included: One table (10 seats)

**AFFILIATE SPONSOR**      **\$5,000**      **Availability: Unlimited**

Affiliate sponsors will have their logo only or organization/company name digitally displayed on rotation. Sponsorship language included online. Seating included: Five seats

**FRIEND SPONSOR**      **\$2,500**      **Availability: Unlimited**

Friend sponsors will have their logo only or organization/company name digitally displayed on rotation. Seating included: Two seats

**Deadline for responses and submission of artwork: Friday, January 6, 2023**

(over)

**ARTWORK SPECIFICATIONS**

All digital ads must be submitted electronically to Julie Cooper, [jcooper@teamster.org](mailto:jcooper@teamster.org).

**Resolution:** 1920x1080 at 72 pixels/inch composition

**Color:** RGB

**File types:** JPG (preferred), PNG, PDF, Microsoft PPT\*, or MP4 with H.264 compression (if ad display includes motion)

**Logo files only:** Vector EPS or PNG

**\*PPT files:** Any PowerPoint files submitted must be saved in "On-screen Show (16:9)." This setting is listed under 'Page Setup.' Slides will be converted to JPGs and displayed as static images. Transitions and animations added in PowerPoint will be lost.

**DINNER TICKETS AND DONATIONS**

**Individual tickets:** \$600/seat Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_

Participation is not possible, but a donation will be made in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION**

Please visit [Teamster.org/scholarships](http://Teamster.org/scholarships) to finalize your registration, lodging, sponsorship, and seating online. Or please complete this form and submit your check in the total amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_, using the enclosed return envelope. Checks should be made out to "Teamsters Scholarship Fund" and returned to: Teamsters Scholarship Fund, 25 Louisiana Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20001.

**CONTACT INFORMATION** *(if replying by mail):*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Organization/Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS**

A block of rooms has been reserved at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort for guests attending the Teamsters Scholarship Fund Inaugural Reception on Saturday, January 14, 2023. The hotel is located at 1000 West Buena Vista Drive, Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830. The block is for check-in on January 13 and out on January 15.

**Room rates:** \$229-\$289

**Cut-off:** December 15, 2022

**Reference:** Teamsters Scholarship Fund

**Book by phone:** Call Disney Group Reservations at (407) 939-4686

**Book online:** [Teamster.org/scholarships](http://Teamster.org/scholarships)

**QUESTIONS?**

Please contact Julie Brady or Shanika Smith at [scholarshipfund@teamster.org](mailto:scholarshipfund@teamster.org) or (202) 624-6800 with any questions or concerns.

