



Dear Rise Up! Conference Participants,

Thank you in advance for taking the time to attend the Rise Up! Educational Conference. We look forward to seeing you on April 11 & 12, 2026, at the DoubleTree Hotel, 18740 International Blvd, Seattle, WA 98188. We want to share some key components we have planned for this important weekend.

### **On-site Check-in and Schedule**

Please review the [conference agenda](#) to familiarize yourself with the start times and locations for all scheduled events. The [Rise Up! website](#) is an excellent resource to keep you informed about the weekend schedule. On-site check-in is scheduled for Saturday, April 11, at 8:00 am – 10:00 am in the lobby outside of the grand ballroom.

### **Workshops**

Workshops will be offered throughout the day on Saturday, April 11. Please review the schedule for details. Your individualized workshop schedule will be provided at check-in.

### **P.E.O.P.L.E. - Public Employees Organized to Promote Legislative Equality**

Stop by the PEOPLE table, sign up if you are not yet a member. The LPA staff will be on-site to answer any questions you have about the P.E.O.P.L.E. program.

### **Travel and Lodging**

If you have submitted a lodging request, you should expect to receive your confirmation from the hotel ahead of the conference. Please watch your email for this information. Additionally, if you submitted a flight request, you will receive your itinerary from Melissa Mills once she secures your flight. Should you need to cancel your lodging and/or flight, please email Melissa no later than Wednesday, April 8, to avoid any cancellation charges. If an attendee is a “no show,” any incurred charges will still be deducted from the local’s per capita. Please see the Travel Policy posted on the conference website for guidance.

### **Accessibility**

As a reminder, we are planning for the conference to be accessible to all delegates. You can contact Melissa Mills at [MelissaM@wfse.org](mailto:MelissaM@wfse.org). Providing this information in advance will assist us in making the necessary preparations, as we may not be able to accommodate last-minute requests.

### **Meals and Special Events**

- The Council is providing all meals throughout the weekend – see agenda for details.
- Our Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday, April 11, in the evening. The banquet is provided for all registered members.
- The conference is also a wonderful opportunity to network with fellow leaders from across the state. Please plan to participate in B-I-N-G-O at 8 pm on Saturday, immediately following the awards banquet.

## Contact and Assistance

If you have any questions or need assistance at any time during the conference, please contact a member of our staff. We are here to support you and ensure you have a positive and productive experience. As you continue to prepare for your participation, please reach out with any questions. Contact information is below:

- General questions, contact Emily Roberts, Coordinator of Executive Services, [Emilyr@wfse.org](mailto:Emilyr@wfse.org)
- Lodging, Travel, Dietary, and ADA requests, contact Melissa Mills, Confidential Executive Secretary, [Melissam@wfse.org](mailto:Melissam@wfse.org)

## Code of Conduct and Respectful Participation

As always, we expect all attendees to uphold our values of respect, inclusion, and solidarity. Please be mindful of our code of conduct and help us create a welcoming environment for everyone.

Thank you in advance for joining us!

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Yestromaki". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Council President  
AFSCME C28/WFSE