

2026 POLK SCHOOL

EDUCATING WOMEN WORKERS SINCE 1988



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Cost: \$850 includes instruction, room, and board
Scholarships Available

Application deadline:
March 6, 2026
Apply online -
<https://go.illinois.edu/Polk2026>

Courses include Grievance Handling, Public Speaking Skills, & Labor History taught by University of Illinois faculty and experienced labor educators.



Location: UAW Pat Greathouse
Education Center, Ottawa, IL
Date: April 29-May 3, 2026

**“As long as there is discrimination against ANYONE, unions are needed.”
Regina V. Polk, 1981**

ABOUT THE SCHOOL

The Regina V. Polk Women's Labor Leadership Conference is a multi-day participatory conference run by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's Labor Education Program for working women that creates an open & invigorating space for rank and file women union activists & community leaders to learn from skilled instructors and one another.

Learn about the nuts and bolts of contract enforcement while also developing your skills as a leader. This is perfect for women who are just beginning their training as well as those with more experience so we can learn from one another.

Learn from over 30 women workers from Illinois and the Midwest who represent all kinds of jobs. Courses are taught by university labor educators, staff of unions and worker organizations, and former Polk students.

The Polk School is a gender affirming and inclusive program. Our programming aims to create a safe and inclusive space for women and gender-diverse individuals. We are committed to fostering a respectful community.

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The Regina V. Polk Scholarship Fund
For Labor Leadership