

THE COLA INCREASE IS A GREAT CHANCE TO BUILD OUR UNION

Career postal workers under the main APWU/USPS contract will see a \$0.48 increase in paychecks dated September 15, 2023. That increase equals \$38.40 per pay period or \$998 annually for a full-time worker. The hourly rates for part-time employees will be adjusted accordingly. The COLAs are in addition to general wage and step increases.

Now is a good time to remind our non-members of what we can achieve by standing together, and how much stronger we would be if we all stood together.

Having a full COLA is a big deal that benefits us all, and maintaining it is no small feat. Our COLA comes from our union-negotiated contract, but the contract is only as strong as our membership. Next year (2024), the APWU will be in negotiations for a new Collective Bargaining Agreement.

We All Have a Role to Play!



Building union power makes us all stronger. Every new member of the APWU is an additional postal worker's voice speaking up for good jobs at the USPS, whether it be a voice for better pay, better benefits, better service, or demanding a better work environment with respect. Our strength is in our numbers!

By stepping up and committing to organizing for a strong APWU, you are helping build a better tomorrow for us all.

What Can You Do to Build Our Union?

- You can talk to your non-union coworkers about why they should join the union, and sign them up!
- You can attend a union meeting or other union activities and ask your co-workers to join you.
- You can join a committee within your local or consider becoming a shop steward.



Check Out Our Online Join Process!

Our online tool has made joining the APWU easy for both non-members who want to join, and for the members looking to sign up their co-workers. The entire process takes minutes to complete.

Take a picture and save the QR image below on your phone. Once saved, you can easily have your non-member coworker scan the code with their phone so they can complete the process of joining online.

Make the commitment today and ask at least one non-member coworker to stand with you.

For more information, visit: www.apwu.org/join or scan the QR code below:



SOCIAL SECURITY FAIRNESS ACT

CALL CONGRESS DAY OF ACTION SEPTEMBER 27, 2023

We are calling on every APWU member to participate in our Sept. 27 Call Congress Day of Action and advocate for the passage of the Social Security Fairness Act (H.R. 82 and S. 597).

As an active postal employee, this bill likely does not affect you directly. However, we have learned that fighting together is the path to winning issues that affect us all. APWU retirees have fought tirelessly for active employees, both via legislative and collective bargaining. It is our turn to fight for the benefits they have earned and are being denied!

If passed and signed into law, this legislation would correct a serious injustice that affects many postal and federal retirees by repealing the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP).

In 1984, Congress reduced the Social Security benefits of Civil Service employees under the “guise” that most federal or postal retiree under the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) should also have full Social Security benefits, even when they earned them under Social Security regulations.

The WEP invoked a penalty of up to 50 percent of earned Social Security benefits. The GPO applies

to spouses and survivors of a CSRS employee, with the penalty totaling up to a two-thirds loss of earned Social Security.

The bill, introduced by Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Representative Garret Graves (R-LA-06), has large bipartisan support. As members of Congress return from their August recess, H.R. 82 has obtained 289 cosponsors in the House. We are working with a broad coalition to increase that number and ensure the bill has enough support in both the House and Senate to make it all the way to the president’s desk for signature during this Congress.

To move this issue forward, we are holding a Call Congress Day of Action on Sept. 27.

**Call APWU’s Legislative Hotline
at (844) 402-1001 to be connected
to your representative.**

**Once connected, please ask them to cosponsor
the Social Security Fairness Act and pressure
House Speaker McCarthy to place H.R. 82 on
the floor for a vote!**

COMMUNICATING WITH YOU, THE MEMBER: APWU PODCAST FROM THE PRESIDENT

Download the APWU Podcast from the President

...a new podcast hosted by union president Mark Dimondstein. The podcast will share updates about our union work and news from APWU. Find out about our latest campaigns for postal workers and to preserve our public Postal Service.

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