



ILLINOIS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION RETIRED PROGRAM

Just because you're retired doesn't mean you're ready to slow down. Stay connected to our education family.

The IEA Retired program (IEA-Retired) has more than 12,000 members from all membership groups – PreK-12 teachers, support professionals and higher ed. We represent all their retirement issues and interests – from pensions to health care - and we offer so much more!

PENSION PROTECTION

The IEA employs a lobbying team that includes an expert on pension and retirement issues. There is no other organization that provides its members with as great an influence on the Teachers' Retirement System Board of Trustees as IEA with at least six members in the elected teacher positions on the Board of Trustees. The IEA has been able to elect two members to the board of the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund, the pension system for support personnel and has representation on the State Universities Retirement System of Illinois, as well.

FEDERAL PENSION PROTECTION

IEA is a member of the National Education Association, which is 3 million members strong. NEA lobbies on behalf of retired and active members every day, working to prevent mandatory inclusion of ALL employees under Social Security and against proposed cuts in Medicare. It's also working to repeal the Government Pension Offset (GPO) against Social Security survivor benefits – an offset that affects many teachers and classified staff whose spouses are deceased, as well as the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) that penalizes teachers in Illinois who retire under TRS.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- \$1 million in liability insurance for temporary work in public school systems.
- A full range of Member Benefits programs that can save you more in one year than the cost of a lifetime of dues, including dental and vision insurance.
- The most effective lobbying team in the state working on issues for IEA-Retired members.
- Involvement with the organization that has the greatest impact on the state's retirement systems.
- A toll-free number to contact your organization without cost.
- Two scholarships are awarded by the program to children of IEA members.
- An award program that recognizes the outstanding IEA-Retired member each year.
- State, regional and national conferences where retired education employees come together to address common concerns, make decisions and set policy for the organization.
- Continued involvement with your association friends and education policy.
- Association with the largest retired education employee organization in the state.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

STUDENT MENTORING PROGRAM

The IEA-Retired/Student Mentoring Program matches retired educators and students studying education with similar interests and academic areas for the purpose of communications and support for the college student. It allows those with experience to provide guidance for those readying to enter the classroom – a place for non-evaluator experienced educators to talk, share and encourage someone just starting out. It gives the college student a safe place to vent frustrations, brainstorm ideas and ask for advice.

THE ONE CONFERENCE

Annually, the IEA-Retired program partners with the IEA support professionals and the higher ed members to put on a combined conference. Here, you will meet other retirees, attend sessions that meet the needs and interests of many, you will walk away feeling better about your organization and why it has been such an important part of your life.

IEA COMMITTEE WORK

There are so many ways IEA-Retired members can engage in IEA's work, including serving on IEA committees. Specifically, IEA-Retired has a Racial and Social Justice Committee, a Legislative Action Committee and an Outreach Task Force. There are many opportunities for our retired members to use their expertise and knowledge in ways to continue to benefit public education.

HOW TO JOIN?

The best way to join is by pre-enrolling. As a current IEA member, you can pre-enroll in the IEA-Retired program. It will have no effect on your current membership and benefits. Plus, you can pay the IEA-Retired lifetime dues for IEA and NEA (currently \$350) if it's easier, you can pay by credit card. It's easier to pay now, while earning a full paycheck. You'll lock in on the current dues amount. And, you'll automatically be enrolled. Plus, when you enroll, you will receive from NEA-Retired a "Planning Guide for Retirement," which contains valuable information on such topics as financial planning, travel, health and wellness, Social Security and home safety.

Or, you can join when you retire and pay \$40 a year in dues.

Remember: If it doesn't start with IEA, it isn't us!



Learn more at: ieanea.org/members/retired or scan the QR code with your smart phone's camera.

CONNECT 

Reach out to IEA Connect online or call 844-IEA-1800