

## Union Members & Agency Service Fee Payers (Non-Members)

*What is the difference?*

<u>UNION MEMBERS</u>	<u>AGENCY SERVICE FEE PAYERS</u>
Covered by union contract; can get help from union with contractual matters	Covered by union contract; can get help from union with contractual matters
Can participate in all FSU votes	Can only vote on issues that directly impact the contract
Can serve on FSU committees and help set union's priorities	Not eligible to hold union office or influence union's direction on non-bargaining issues
Are covered by \$1,000,000 NEA professional liability insurance policy which protects against lawsuits connected with your employment	Excluded from coverage
Benefit from group purchasing discounts on auto, homeowners and life insurance, mortgage refinancing, vision care, tax preparation	No benefits
Have access to reduced admissions to over 1,000 museums, theaters, stores, ski areas, and more	No reduced admissions
May receive free legal advice and representation in areas such as employment discrimination, unemployment, retirement, civil rights violations, privacy issues, workers compensation	No free legal services
Are entitled to assistance in defraying legal costs incurred in defending against charges of crimes alleged to have occurred in the course of employment	No assistance
Have access to reduced-fee legal services for non-employment legal problems	No access to this program

The largest difference in cost between agency service fee and union membership is for the political advocacy that the union engages in. For example, union dues help pay MTA to lobby the state legislature for adequate university funding. By law, that counts as something that union members, but not agency service fee payers, pay for. But most people on campus see this as one of the most important things the union does to try to create and maintain the best possible university.