



UNITE EDUCATION IN IRELAND

Course Programme

September – December 2026



Education 2026

Quarter 3

Course	Venue	Dates
Workplace Reps 2	Galway	September 22nd/23rd/24th
Equalities	Dublin	September 22nd/23rd

Quarter 4

Course	Venue	Dates
Pensions 2	Dublin	October 15th/16th
Workplace Reps 1	Dublin	October 20th/21st/22nd
Branch Training	Dublin	October 22nd
Health & Safety	Dublin	November 3rd/4th/5th
AI Training	Online	November 19th
Workplace Reps 2	Dublin	November 24th/25th/26th
A Just Transition	Dublin	December 14th/15th
Effective Communications Skills for Trade Unionists	Dublin	December 16th/17th

Education 2026

What our courses cover:

Workplace Reps Stage 1 | 3 consecutive days

This course will cover your role as a Representative and how to be effective, the operation of your Branch, Sector and union, the nature of the employment relationships in practice and in law, and the basics of representation, negotiation and how and when to interact with your Officer and other supports.

Workplace Reps Stage 2 | 3 consecutive days

This course is a follow on for those who have completed Workplace Reps Stage 1 already and will cover industrial relations legislation, collective bargaining, Unite structures and your role as a Rep more deeply.

Pensions Part 1 | 1 day course

Pensions 1 is designed to provide participants with an understanding of their pension needs and the different Defined Contribution, Defined Benefit and new Auto Enrolment pension schemes that supplement the State pension.

Pensions Part 2 | 2 day course

Pensions 2 will develop further the topics covered in Pensions 1 and will include areas such as the role of Trustees, Governance, Regulation, Communications and Investment. Both courses will be interactive and will feature videos, discussion groups and guest speakers.

Health & Safety | 2 consecutive days

This course will cover health and safety legislation in the Republic of Ireland and the role of a Health and Safety Representative.



Education 2026

What the courses cover (continued)

Equalities | 2 consecutive days

This course is designed to give all Unite Reps and branch officials the confidence and knowledge to address equality and diversity issues. The course provides a comprehensive overview of equality in the workplace. On completion of the course reps should be able to: Recognise equality issues within the workplace, know what constitutes discrimination, harassment and bullying, challenge the perception of equality and diversity. Decide how best to support workers in response to new equality legislation and develop equality policies and practice.

Everyday Accessibility Supports: A One-Hour Online Demo (To Aid members with Neurodiversity & Literacy Difficulties) Part 1 (1 hour online training)

We are delighted to offer our members a new one-hour online accessibility demonstration. The session will show useful tools in Microsoft products, including Immersive Reader, Editor, Word transcription and Word prediction. It will also cover simple time-management supports on your phone, such as using Google Assistant to set reminders. We will look at NotebookLM as well, which can summarise information and change the format of reports to suit individual needs. This session aims to support colleagues with everyday tasks with a specific focus on aiding members with Neurodiversity & literacy difficulties. It is open to all skill levels.

A Just Transition | 2 consecutive days

This course will discuss the reasons for climate breakdown and the impact it will have on jobs and society. The objective of the class is to identify the potential opportunity from moving from a fossil fuel economy to an economy based on sustainable and renewable energy.



Education 2026

What the courses cover (continued)

A.I. Training | 1 day

What does AI mean for UNITE members? Positives and Negatives

We are delighted to offer our members a new opportunity to learn more about one of the most important developments in our times: the growth of AI. AI can quickly draw on millions of documents and websites to give union members immediate access to information about our rights; it can help us discover best practice both in Ireland and abroad; it can help with translation for members who need it. But at the same time, AI responses are often inaccurate or incomplete. They can never replace sourcing actual legislation or official documents. AI systems may reflect biases present in their training data, potentially misrepresenting minorities. AI is also being used by employers to research staff, creating privacy issues and the data they are trained on may have been illegally obtained.

We will discuss these positives and negatives and share experiences to better understand how the world is changing because of AI: what the opportunities are and what are the pitfalls.

Effective Communication Skills for Trade Unionists

This course will give Unite activists and workplace reps the opportunity to develop public speaking skills including writing and delivering a short speech.

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If you wish to register, please respond to educationroi@unitetheunion.org with your full name and the name of your workplace.

Your Education ROI Training Team

