



Get active and campaigning in UNISON



UNISON has a proud campaigning history and there's never been a more important time for you to help us continue that tradition.

Our public services, and your future jobs and pensions are being targeted by the Conservative government that is determined to make public sector workers and service users pay the price of bringing down the deficit.

UNISON believes that cutting back public service spending and putting our services in the hands of private companies puts all our communities at risk. We will not sit back while societies are ripped apart and the vulnerable are tossed aside to pay for the ideology of the Conservative government.

Your future is at stake – we need to take action to ensure that when you graduate there are public services that enable you to save, protect and enrich lives. Public services that are there for you when you

need them. Jobs for you to go into and a career to look forward to.

UNISON is always campaigning so there is always something you can do.

Pay up now!

Pay for nursing graduates has fallen sharply since 2010. In order to attract the best students, pay must set at levels that feel fair and enable the NHS to compete with other graduate employers. The government is now under real pressure to scrap the 1% cap on public sector wages and UNISON is leading the fight to get members the pay rise they deserve.

Join UNISON's Pay Up Now! Campaign at: unison.org.uk/our-campaigns/pay-up-now

Student Funding – keeping up the pressure

UNISON will continue to press the Westminster Government to reverse its

short-sighted decision to scrap the training bursary.

If you have just started your nurse training in England, you are not entitled to claim the bursary. If you are starting in Scotland or Northern Ireland, your bursary will stay in place, with students in Cymru/Wales waiting for the 2017-18 review for a final decision on future funding for nurse training.

UNISON campaigned against replacing the bursary with loans.

Our key concerns are:

- Impact on diversity of nursing students – we think loans will deter older students, those with families and those from poorer homes from applying for the course
- Teaching experience – will the ‘free for all’ on training numbers affect the experience of students, with fuller classrooms and less face to face supervision time?

- Placement quality – how will your experience on placement be affected?

We also want to hear your views so look out for our annual student hardship survey that will be sent out just after Christmas

UNISON will continue to campaign against the removal of the NHS bursary and the introduction of tuition fees and loans for healthcare students in England.

If you want to help us monitor the impact of the move to loans, sign up to be part of our student funding research network by emailing the health inbox:
health@unison.co.uk

Safe staffing levels

Healthcare students should be supernumerary, but are often included in staffing numbers because of staff shortages. Staff shortages can also mean that healthcare students

do not get the support or supervision they require from qualified healthcare professionals, which can affect the quality and experience of their placement. UNISON ensures that employers do not exploit healthcare students by campaigning for safe staffing levels in all healthcare settings to ensure patient and staff safety.

What you can do to start campaigning

- Join UNISON
unison.org.uk/join
- Follow UNISON on twitter
[@UNISONOurNHS](https://twitter.com/UNISONOurNHS)
[@UNISONnurses](https://twitter.com/UNISONnurses)
[@UNISONtweets](https://twitter.com/UNISONtweets)
- Join the UNISON Our NHS Our Future Facebook page:
facebook.com/ournhsourfuture
- Visit the UNISON web site unison.org.uk

Three simple ways to join UNISON today and get essential cover wherever you work



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Call us on
0800 171 2193



Ask your UNISON rep
for an application form