

# Training & Education Fund News



SEIU HEALTHCARE 1199NW MULTI-EMPLOYER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FUND

SPRING 2021

## Spring Transitions. And Hope.



Spring. A time of new life and growth. Light after darkness. A time of hope. We still have a lot of work to do to get through the pandemic, but together we're making progress. And after a long, long winter, we are breathing a collective sigh of relief as we watch our members on the frontlines and others in our communities get vaccinated against COVID-19.

Recently, Gov. Jay Inslee signed a \$2.2 billion COVID relief bill which addresses a host of needs facing Washingtonians right now. And across our state, more than 4.6 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been given as of April 17.

And of course, life continues. You—our members, frontline healthcare workers—continue the difficult dance of balancing your critical work with caring for families and advancing your careers. We thank you for your hard work and perseverance over the past year.

All of this brings us hope. We hope it brightens your day too.



## Member Success Story

Even during a difficult year like 2020, many of you (our members) have achieved great things! Marina "Rina" Sotero-Galban, a St. Anne Hospital Registered Nurse,

shared her story about completing school with support from the Training Fund.

"Going back to school for a Master's program after 30 years, in a different learning environment, with a full-time O.R. nurse job, and the pandemic is not easy, but not impossible to do. I was amazed by the tremendous support I had from the Training Fund and WGU mentors. Now I can say I will never regret taking the high road in meeting my personal and professional development. The next step for me is to plan on giving back."

Marina graduated with her Masters of Science degree in Nursing Education from Western Governors University in October 2020.



## Key Documents Translated into Five Languages

We continue to work on making our services more accessible to all members. We recently translated our core documents (the benefits overview and eligibility flyer) into our top five languages: Amharic, Filipino, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese. They are available now on our [website](#).

Don't forget that our website is also available in these languages! Look for the drop-down menu in the top right corner.



## Professional Development Updates

We are always striving to better serve you—our members—and we recently updated our [Plan Benefits](#) to reflect that. There are two changes we want to highlight for you in the [professional development](#) services we offer.

For Professional-Technical workers, we have a new rotating system of awards to the conference travel funding to allow more members to access this program. We will also now be able to cover reasonable costs for AirBnB and similar accommodations (not just hotels).

We will now even be able to pay for professional development certificates and courses and reimburse your request without your manager’s signature.

In addition to the full Plan Benefits book, we also have a shorter [Benefits Overview](#) that summarizes our services and programs. We encourage you to read about the services available to you.

Read the details at [bit.ly/PDupdates2021](http://bit.ly/PDupdates2021).

## Excitement Surrounds Partnership with Clover Park Technical College



Prospective students in Pierce County will soon be able to obtain a paid healthcare apprenticeship while attending classes in-person and virtually at Clover Park Technical College thanks to

a partnership between Clover Park, the [Health Care Apprenticeship Consortium](#), and the [Virtual Healthcare Institute](#). By using modern technology, the Virtual Healthcare Institute is able to create a virtual reality classroom where students can hone their medical skills. Paired with soon-to-be healthcare apprenticeship cohorts (who earn while they learn) and Clover Park, future students will have one of the most flexible, accessible Medical Assistant programs available in Washington.

Brandon Rogers, Associate Dean of Instruction at Clover Park Technical College, sat down to talk with us about what excites him the most about this partnership.

Read the interview: [bit.ly/CPTCpartnership](http://bit.ly/CPTCpartnership)



## New Employee Spotlight

**SHELLI VEAL** We like to introduce you to new staff members so that you get to know the people who work at the Training Fund! Shelli Veal joined the Training Fund as the Apprenticeship Coordinator in November 2020. In this role she works to support apprentices, instructors, and employers participating in apprenticeships. This includes providing program information, coordinating cohorts, and developing processes to scale up the apprenticeship program. Shelli has a Master of Arts in Teaching and has been working to support students’ educational aspirations for more than 15 years. After working at several universities and a local community

college, the Training Fund is a natural fit to leverage her background in education, program development, and internships. She enjoys spending time with her family, watching reality competition shows, and riding her bike around the beautiful parks and trails in Washington.



Our union and employer partners

Supporting innovative training, education and career development for healthcare workers that maximizes their talents, proactively meets industry needs, and ensures high-quality patient care through a diverse and skilled healthcare workforce.

