



OREGON AFSCME LOCAL 283 I

STRONGER TOGETHER - STRIKE FAQ

Who decides to conduct a strike?

The members voted overwhelmingly on Sept. 19th and 21st to go on strike if an agreement cannot be reached.

Who can strike?

All members, fair-share payers and probationary service employees in the bargaining unit may strike.

How long would a strike last?

The bargaining team and the members will decide. However, we should be prepared for an open-ended strike.

If the strike lasts long enough will there be strike benefits?

Our union does not have a traditional strike fund that pays your salary while on strike. However, our union has approved money to cover hardships. That means if you need help for necessities we will be there to help.

Are all members expected to picket?

Yes. The strength of our picket line shows the strength of our union. Not everyone will be pick-

eting at the same time but we need people out at many county sites during business hours. Plus, we will make sure that picketing is friendly and fun!

What happens if a represented worker crosses our picket line?

We ask and encourage everyone to honor the picket line. You may hear that unions have the right to fine a member who crosses but Oregon AFSCME does not sanction members during a strike. The biggest impact on union members who cross is often on their relationships with their picketing coworkers, both during and after the strike.

Can I use accrued vacation and sick leave during a strike?

No, workers cannot use or accrue leave during a strike.

How will the strike affect retirement benefits and seniority?

Strike time is treated as unpaid leave. Strikers do not receive retirement benefits or seniority credit when they are on strike.

Can strikers get unemployment benefits while on strike?

No. You are not eligible to receive unemployment benefits while on strike.

If I'm a probationary employee, will I have to go on strike?

There are different risks for employees still on probation. Before you make that decision about whether to strike or not, reach out to your Union Rep, Jim Steiner, or a member of your bargaining team so you can make the best decision for you and your family.

Won't a strike play into their hands by saving management money?

No. The political and economic pressure of a strike outweighs any monetary savings. A strike almost always shuts down or greatly slows the employer's services. That is the power of withholding our labor!

If you have more questions reach out to Jim Steiner at 541-915-5677 or jsteiner@oregonafscme.org.