

December 16, 2024

CTA-AE News This Month!

Dear Aspiring Educators,

Reflecting on the recent local and national elections, we feel urgency and hope. The path forward is clear: We must channel our collective energy into shaping an educational system that empowers students and strengthens the fabric of our democracy.

Through our coordinated efforts, union educators across the state made an undeniable impact. Together, we knocked on over **500,000 doors**, helping to swing crucial races from school boards to battleground congressional seats. At our **Fall Event**, we connected with over **1,000 households** and held **200 meaningful conversations** to secure the election of two dedicated, pro-public education school board members. Many of our fellow CTA members have stepped into leadership roles, winning positions on school boards and other elected offices. This is the power of solidarity in action. See the updates at [@WeAreCTA](#) and [@CTA_AspiringEd](#)!

At the national level, the challenges ahead are daunting. Policy changes threaten to defund schools, promote vouchers, and marginalized voices in education. But with challenge comes opportunity. We believe in educators' resilience, our communities' unity, and our students' promise. We will fight to defend what matters most—our public schools, our right to inclusive education, and our shared commitment to equity and opportunity for all. Together, we say: THIS is what democracy looks like. 🙌

However, our membership has concerns about the role of political engagement in our mission. Let us be clear: the classroom and the ballot box are deeply connected. Political decisions shape our resources, the policies we teach under, and the future our students inherit. Advocacy isn't a departure from our educational mission—it is an essential part of it.

Now is the time to amplify our voices and grow our movement. When shared with others, hesitancy can become courage, and advocacy catalyzes transformation. Join us in working to develop aspiring educators statewide. Learn how to build a chapter at www.cta.org/ctaee, where you will find new resources for becoming a member and chapter. Together, we are not just educators but changemakers, leading the charge for a brighter and fairer future.

Thank you for being part of this vital work. Let's continue to stand together, inspired by the knowledge that what we do today will shape future generations. Together, we win.

In solidarity,
Ethan, Mali, and Isaiah
Your CTA-AE Officers

CTA-AE Statewide Board Vacancies

We have opportunities for members to get involved on the CTA Aspiring Educators Statewide Board! Here are the positions that we are looking to fill:

1. Region 1 Director
2. Region 3 Director
3. REAC Director (2 positions available)

These positions are appointed by the CTA-AE President and approved by the CTA-AE Statewide Board.

You can find more about the positions and duties here on the [CTA-AE Standing Rules](#) and below:

1. Regional 1 Director and Region 3 Director

Regional directors work with the Vice President of CTA-AE to coordinate state membership recruitment. They also work with and support local chapters and members in their region to provide resources, leadership, and guidance. Find out what region you are in [here](#).

2. Racial Equity Affairs Committee Directors (REAC)

We are looking for two more individuals to join our REAC team. These individuals develop and lead CTA-AE's work on racial, ethnic, and social justice issues in education.

If you're interested in any of these positions, please fill out this [2024-2025 Declaration of Candidacy Form](#) or contact the CTA-AE Elections Chair Kristin Murray at kristinmurraycta@gmail.com.

Save the Date (and register!) for the CTA-AE Spring Event and RA!

We are excited to share details about our CTA-AE Spring Event and Representative Assembly!

- When: April 19-20, 2024
- Where: Los Angeles, CA
- Register: <https://bit.ly/CTA-AE25SpringEventReg>

The event is FREE to all CTA-AE members! Become a member or renew your membership here: www.cta.org/ctaee.

We can also provide scholarships to cover hotel and travel but will be prioritizing members from chapters. Please connect with your chapter leaders if you're interested in attending and receiving a scholarship. If you don't have a chapter at your campus, connect with us to create a chapter and submit a Chapter Recognition Form here: <https://bit.ly/CTA-AE24ChapterRecognition>

Chapter Development Updates

CTA Aspiring Educator Chapters are at the heart of CTA-AE!

There are 5 easy steps to becoming a CTA-AE Chapter:

1. Fill out the Chapter Recognition Form below and at: <https://bit.ly/CTA-AE24ChapterRecognition>;
2. Show proof of official club status on campus;
3. Show proof of elected leadership, ie: Chapter President;
4. Show proof of at least one advisor, ie: faculty in your campus School of Education; and
5. Share your governing documents, ie: Chapter By-Laws – we have samples you can use!

In addition to all the benefits of being a CTA-AE Member, recognized CTA-AE Chapters receive additional benefits.

Please see below for 5 reasons to become a CTA-AE Chapter:

1. Sponsorship to attend CTA-AE's events like our Fall Event on November 2-3, 2024 or Spring Event and Representative Assembly on April 19-20, 2025;
2. CTA-AE gear like t-shirts, tote bags, pens, pencils;
3. Access to scholarships and awards for school through the [CTA Foundation's Scholarship Programs & Awards](#);

4. Opportunity to meet with CTA-AE Chapters across the state and with [NEA Aspiring Educators](#); Members and Chapters across the nation; and
5. Voting rights at CTA-AE's Representative Assembly.

Link to charter chapter: <https://bit.ly/CTA-AE24ChapterRecognition>

If you are a member whose chapter has not yet been recognized, feel free to contact Rob Hood if you're in Region 1 or 2 at cta.ae.robhood@gmail.com, Navneet Kaur if you're in Region 3 or 4 at navkaur1182@gmail.com, Mali Vera Curzio if you're not sure at cta.ae.madelainecurzio@gmail.com.

Join CTA-Aspiring Educators

IN OUR UNION, WE HAVE THE POWER TO IMPROVE PUBLIC
EDUCATION AND OUR COMMUNITIES

Members of CTA-AE have access to the following benefits:

- 1 Networking, leadership, training, and professional development opportunities
- 2 Access to scholarships and grants from CTA specifically for CTA Aspiring Educators;
- 3 \$1 Million in liability insurance, low rates on auto, homeowners/renters insurance



Start a CTA-AE Chapter

WE ARE A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO ADVANCING THE VALUES
OF PUBLIC EDUCATION. WE STRIVE TO CONNECT ASPIRING EDUCATORS FROM
ACROSS THE STATE AND PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
OPPORTUNITIES TO PREPARE THE NEXT GENERATION OF EDUCATORS.

In addition to all the benefits of being a CTA-AE Member, turning your club into a CTA-AE Chapter comes with many benefits:

- 1 Scholarships to cover travel and hotel to attend our Fall and Spring conferences;
- 2 CTA-AE gear for your club, leaders, and members to support campus organizing;
- 3 Opportunity to meet with CTA-AE Chapters across the state and lead for Aspiring Educators across the state;
- 4 Opportunity to meet with NEA AE Chapters across the nation and lead for Aspiring Educators across the nation.



JOIN CTA-AE TODAY!
[CTA.ORG/CTAAE](https://cta.org/cta-ae)



Frequently Asked Questions



What is CTA-AE?

The CTA Aspiring Educators Program is an affiliate of the [California Teachers Association](#) (CTA), which is an organization of over 300,000 public school educators dedicated to advancing the values of public education. CTA is the California state affiliate of the National Education Association (NEA), which is an organization of over 3 million public school educators across the country.



What is CTA-AE's mission?

- 1 teacher quality,
- 2 community engagement,
- 3 diversity, and
- 4 advocacy.

These values guide us as we defend the future of our profession and advocate for better working conditions for educators, which means better learning conditions for our students.

How do I become a member?



How do I start a CTA-AE Chapter?



For more information visit us at: cta.org/ctaee

JOIN CTA-AE TODAY!

[CTA.ORG/CTAAE](https://cta.org/ctaee)



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