



IN REPLY REFER TO
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INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AEROSPACE & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA – UAW

SHAWN FAIN, *PRESIDENT* • MARGARET MOCK, *SECRETARY-TREASURER*
VICE-PRESIDENTS: MIKE BOOTH • RICH BOYER • LAURA DICKERSON

February 26, 2026

**Official Call
2026 UAW Health & Safety Conference**

**May 3 – May 8, 2026
Walter and May Reuther Family Education Center
Black Lake
Onaway, MI**

To: All Region 1A Local Union Presidents, Vice Presidents, Chairpersons, Financial Secretaries & Recording Secretaries

Greetings:

“Defining Health and Safety for Future Generations” being with workplace safety as a fundamental right and a core part of strong collective bargaining agreements. Effective Contracts create safer job sites, and this conference will equip members with the knowledge and skills to negotiate and enforce strong health and safety protections along with methods to identify and mitigate hazards.

The conference aims to strength the bonds of solidarity among UAW members by providing training, motivation, and a call to action to demand safe worksites.

The 2026 Conference will be held at the Walter and May Reuther UAW Family Education Center (Black Lake) from Sunday, May 3, through Friday, May 8, 2026. On-site registration/credentialing will occur in the Lecture Hall on Sunday, May 3rd, from 1 to 1:45p.m. All delegates **must attend the opening session** on May 3rd at 5 p.m. in the Lecture Hall.

This year’s conference will once again provide helpful training for Health and Safety Representatives, Health and Safety Committee members, and Local Representatives on subjects ranging from industrial hygiene to ergonomics and other health and safety topics, including mental health. **Please note that all first-time delegates will be enrolled in a “Core Curriculum” that will include an OSHA 10-hour class, Know Your Role What Every Health and Safety Rep Should Know and a class on Hazard Recognition.** Other classes this year include workshops from the OSHA Training Institute Education Center (OTIEC). Credits earned taking these courses can be applied toward the Health and Safety “Specialist” and “Professional” credentials issued by the

Great Lakes OTIEC. This year's courses include Ergonomics, Incident Accident Investigation, Combustible Dust, Hazard Recognition, representatives from ANSI B11, NFPA and much more.

REGISTRATION

Registration will be completed online. Please use an updated browser when registering. Delegates should use the following log-in credentials:

Website:	<u>hs.uaw.org</u>
Username:	hs2026
Password:	safetyfirst26

The website will be open for registration on **February 27, 2026**. All registrations must be completed no later than **April 10, 2026**.

If you have any questions regarding the registration process, please contact Jim Holton at 248-431-4660, email: jholton@uaw.net, or Michelle Best at 313-926-4423, email: mbest@uaw.net.

The conference registration fee is \$725 per delegate based on double occupancy housing. Checks should be payable to the **International Union, UAW; ACH payments can be made through LUIS**. It is suggested that the Local generates a single check to cover the registration fees for its delegates. **Please send payment to the UAW Health & Safety Department in c/o Michelle Best no later than April 17, 2026.**

If a delegate requests single housing, the delegate must pay an out-of-pocket expense in the amount of \$330.50. This check should be made out to **UBE, INC.** and sent to the **UAW Health and Safety Department c/o Michelle Best. *Single housing is not guaranteed and is subject to availability.***

The local unions are responsible for all delegates' lost time and registration fees. There are no provisions for lost time reimbursements connected with the Health and Safety Conference.

TRANSPORTATION

Local unions are responsible for all transportation costs for delegates who live less than 500 miles from the Family Education Center.

DRIVING

The Walter and May Reuther UAW Family Education Center is located at 2000 Maxon Road, Onaway, MI 49765. All delegates are expected to arrive at the Family Education Center by 4 p.m. on Sunday, May 3rd and remain until the conference concludes at 9 a.m. on Friday, May 8th. Arrivals and departures should be arranged accordingly.

For those who live more than 500 miles (one-way) from the Center, delegates may travel by passenger vehicle or air transportation. Passenger Vehicle: After 1,000 miles (round-trip), all

drivers will be reimbursed the IRS rate for each mile. Mileage is not reimbursed for the first 1,000 miles of a round-trip (500 miles one-way).

On trips to and returning from the Center, delegates who drive are also entitled each way to one night's lodging for 500 miles or more and two night's lodging for 1,000 miles or more. Motel rates should not exceed \$65 per night for single occupancy or \$80 per night for double occupancy. Delegates must save motel receipts and submit them to the Center for processing. Upon program completion, delegates will receive mileage and/or motel refunds. Reimbursement is not provided for meals, highway tolls, or other expenses incurred during the trip.

Delegates who elect to drive to the Family Education Center should be aware of the "multiple of three" rule. When a local sends more than one delegate to a session, delegates should travel in multiples of up to three per vehicle. The International Union reimburses mileage only to one driver per local, per multiples of three.

Please be advised of the following Walter and May Reuther UAW Family Education Center policy:

Vehicles allowed to park in the FEC must be union-made and have a vehicle identification number (VIN) beginning with 1, 2, 4, or 5 (i.e., made in the USA or Canada). VINs are located on the dashboard or door jamb of vehicles. Upon arriving at the FEC, security guards check each vehicle's VIN. If the vehicle's VIN is anything other than 1, 2, 4, or 5, parking accommodations are available in a lot adjacent to the FEC's front gate. An FEC bus will transport those delegates to the hotel registration desk.

DEADLINES

Registration is due by noon on April 10, 2026. As we expect a full Health and Safety Conference, ***no late registrations will be accepted.***

ELIGIBILITY

Delegate's eligibility is limited to active members of your local union, including members on layoff or strike who have been approved to attend by the local Executive Board. ***No guests or spouses are eligible to attend.***

LOST TIME

The payment of lost time is the sole responsibility of the local union unless the regional director has authorized a subsidy.

CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS

Cancellations must be received no later than April 17, 2026.

Registration fees are non-refundable. Local unions should select alternates to replace delegates no later than April 24, 2026, who cancel and notify their regional office as well as the Health and Safety Department. This conference is an investment in the future of your local union.

THEME DAYS

Monday – Wear “UAW Local Pride” – wear your local union apparel

Tuesday – “Favorite Sports Team” – jersey or shirt

Wednesday – “Red Shirt”

Thursday – “Hawaiian Shirt”

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark DePaoli". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" being the most prominent.

Mark DePaoli, Director
UAW Region 1A

MD/lme

opeiu494afl-cio

cc: Dave Pagac