Why Sign a Yellow GEO Membership Card?

All TAs and GAs who have appointments between 25% and 67% FTE are covered by the GEO contract which sets our working conditions, such as our pay rate, health-care benefits, and much more. By signing a yellow membership card, you will have the right to vote on how the union is run: you get to vote for union leaders, run for office, and help set the future direction of our union. At the same time you will be able to show your support for the GEO’s mission to improve working conditions for TAs and GAs at UIC.

Don’t have a yellow card?
Email us at geo@uic-geo.net to get one today.

How Can I Get Involved?

We are a member-run union, which means graduate employees like you are involved in every aspect of making the union work. There are many ways to get involved this year. You can:

- Join the Bargaining Committee to help bargain your own contract
- Become a department steward to improve working conditions in your department
- Become a member of the GEO Organizing Committee and reach out to grad employees across campus
- Work on the GEO Communications Committee to help share information with your colleagues
- Work with the GEO International Student Worker Caucus to address the International Student Fee
- Start a caucus to address issues that impact you

And much more! Contact your department steward, or email the GEO Steering Committee at geo@uic-geo.net for more information about how to get involved in building a strong union for graduate employees at UIC.
What is the GEO?

The Graduate Employees Organization (GEO) is the labor union that represents more than 1,400 Teaching Assistants (TA) and Graduate Assistants (GA) at UIC.

By working together, graduate students at UIC negotiate with the UIC administration for improvements in our working conditions.

Because we have a union, we have the right to negotiate with the UIC administration about:

- Protection for the benefits we have
- Health, vision, and dental benefits
- Pay rates and pay increases
- A fair grievance procedure
- Tuition waivers
- Workload limits

What Have We Accomplished by Working Together?

- Guaranteed tuition waivers
- Yearly wage increases
- Dental and vision coverage

- $1,131 in fee waivers per semester:
  - $349 Service Fee
  - $86 Health Service Fee
  - $321 Academic Facility Maintenance Assessment
  - $200 Library & Info Tech Assessment
  - 35% or $175 toward Campus Care (whichever is higher)

What Are We Working On Now?

In May 2013, we negotiated a new contract with the UIC administration. We made significant gains during this period, including:

- Increased wages
- Improved health care coverage for graduate employees and their families
- Stronger legal protections

Our contract expires in August 2015, and we are currently in bargaining with the university. We will continue to fight for these benefits and more, including reduced tuition differentials and fees, increased wages, and more substantial health care contributions.

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday, September 2nd, 5-7 p.m.: GEO Welcome Back Social at PhD Bar (1257 S. Halsted).
Snacks and drinks will be provided!