



What is a union?

A union is an organisation made up of people who all work in similar industries or do similar types of jobs. Unions are separate to the company and protect workers.



Employees who join unions are called union members. Unions can give members independent advice about their rights at work and help when they have an issue at work like being bullied or underpaid. Unions also negotiate on behalf of workers for better working conditions and pay.

When you start a job, you might be given information about joining the union from a coworker or the company. If no one gives you information, you can find what union will cover your job through searching online.

Everybody has the right to join a union, but it's not compulsory.

If you decide to join a union, you will pay a regular fee to the union called "union dues." This money pays the people who work at the union helping members with their workplace problems.

WHERE TO GET HELP



YFS LEGAL

Phone: (07) 3826 1599

Email: legal@yfs.org.au

Website: yfs.org.au/working-and-the-law

This Centre is accredited by



Community Legal Centres
Australia

- This is general information only.
- It is not intended to give individual legal advice.
- Each person should seek independent legal advice relating to their special circumstances.
- We do not accept responsibility for any loss or damage caused to anyone who relies on the information in this info sheet.



YFS Legal acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as Australia's first peoples and the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we meet and work.

