



**OFFICIAL CALL TO
THE**

UAW VETERANS CONFERENCE

AUGUST 9-14, 2026

**THE WALTER AND MAY REUTHER UAW FAMILY EDUCATION CENTER
ONAWAY, MICHIGAN**





UAW VETERANS CONFERENCE FAMILY EDUCATION CENTER AUGUST 9-14, 2026



The 2026 UAW National Veterans Conference will be held at the Walter and May Reuther UAW Family Education Center, 2000 Maxon Road, Onaway, Michigan, Sunday, August 9, 2026, through Friday, August 14, 2026. Our Conference theme this year is “Defending Freedom at Home and Abroad.”

This year’s conference will once again provide helpful training for UAW Veterans, Veteran Supporters, and Local Union Representatives, especially those on the Veteran Local Standing Committees. **Please note that all first-time delegates will be enrolled in a “Core Curriculum” that will include sessions on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Veteran Benefits, Resiliency and Veteran Standing Committee.** Other classes this year include workshops from a variety of instructors. These classes will include a women delegate only class “She Power – You Are Enough,” The War Within – Mental Health, Teaching Veterans to Tell Their Story, Financial Freedom, Understanding Your Service-Connected Disability Rating, Civil and Human Rights – What’s Going On and more.

If the local is selecting classes for returning delegates, it is highly recommended that the delegate be allowed to choose their electives during the on-line registration process. This will eliminate the need to make changes on the day of registration and ensure that the classes are not over capacity.

We will once again do a conference theme each day of the week for those who wish to participate and show comradery. Monday will be Branch of Service or Camo, Tuesday will be Local Union or Region, Wednesday is Red Shirt Day, Thursday is Favorite Sports Team.

Regional Allocations

The following are the Regional Allocations for the 2026 National Veterans Conference.

Delegates	Reg 1	Reg 1A	Reg 1D	Reg 2B	Reg 4	Reg 6	Reg 8	Reg 9	Reg 9A
310	40	35	32	46	41	29	43	15	29

Registration

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

Web Address: <https://conference.uaw.org/veterans.php>
User Name: UAWVET2026
Password: VET2026

The website will open for registration on Friday, May 15, 2026. All registrations must be completed **no later than Friday, July 17, 2026.**

If you have any questions regarding the registration process, please contact Administrative Assistant, Matthew Uptmor at 313-926-5654 or email muptmor@uaw.net or contact his secretary, Michelle Best at 313-926-4423 or email at mbest@uaw.net.

The UAW National Veterans Conference registration fee is \$725 per delegate; this is based on double occupancy. Checks should be made payable to the **International Union, UAW**, or ACH payments can be made through LUIS. It is suggested that the local generate a single check to cover the registration fees for its delegates. Please send payment to the UAW Veterans Department c/o Michelle Best no later than **Monday, August 3, 2026.**

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

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

Transportation is provided for delegates whose worksites are over 500 miles from the UAW Family Education Center. For those over 500 miles one-way, options are flying or driving. All airline tickets will be purchased through the travel agents used by Black Lake. Participants who fly will be required to pay for their tickets in advance.

Transportation

Delegates Flying

Delegates must use the following link to make their flight arrangements:

<https://cvent.me/Xaqrgr>

Upon completion of the program, airline tickets will be processed for reimbursement, less \$75 per delegate. **All airline reservations must be completed by Friday, July 17, 2026.**

To assure maximum savings on flight arrangements, delegates will be required to arrive in Detroit on Saturday, August 8, 2026, and **no flights should be scheduled before 5:00 p.m. EST on the return trip Friday, August 14, 2026.**

Overnight lodging will be provided **based on double occupancy at:**

Courtyard by Marriott Detroit Metro Airport Romulus

**30653 Flynn Dr.
Romulus, MI 48174**

Delegates will depart the hotel on Sunday morning, August 9, 2026 at 9 a.m. via a charter bus for the trip to Black Lake.

For those opting to travel by air, flights will be arranged by the local union through Travel Solutions International (TSI USA). Due to stricter airline regulations, delegates who opt to fly must provide their legal name as it appears on a driver's license or other government-issued identification recognized by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). Failure to do so could result in up to a \$150 charge to correct an airline ticket. **The UAW will not reimburse that charge.** Tickets should be purchased through the travel agents used by Black Lake. Participants who fly will be required to pay for their tickets in advance.

Airline Procedure

If paying for airfare with a local union check, you must mail the payment within 24 hours after TSI contacts you. Please make check payable to UBE and send the payment to UBE/Air, UAW Family Education Center, 2000 Maxon Road, Onaway, MI 49765, You must include a copy of the invoice with the check. For questions, call the UAW Family Education Center at 989-733-6311.

Delegates Driving

Arrivals and departures should be scheduled accordingly. All delegates are expected to arrive at the Family Education Center by 4 p.m. on Sunday, August 9, 2026 (except those arriving by flight; see Air and Lodging) and remain until the conference concludes at 9 a.m. on Friday, August 14, 2026.

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

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 1000 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; two nights' lodging for 1000 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 "multiples 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. Only one driver per local, per multiples of three, is reimbursed for mileage by the International Union.

The Walter and May Reuther UAW Family Education Center is located at 2000 Maxon Road, Onaway, MI 49765.

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

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

Special Family Education Center (FEC) Delegates (Subsidy)

The International Union will subsidize food and lodging for five delegates from each Region. You should designate local unions to receive additional financial support. The FEC delegates pay the lower registration fee of \$150.

All regional subsidies must be submitted to Michelle Best at mbest@uaw.net **no later than 4 p.m. on Monday, July 20, 2026.**

ACH payments **will** be deducted after registration closes, but no later than Friday, August 21, 2026.

Deadlines

The deadline for registration is Friday, July 17, 2025, at 4 p.m. (1600 hours). As we expect a full National Veterans Conference, no late registration will be accepted.

Eligibility

A delegate's eligibility is limited to active or retired members of your local union, including members on layoff or strike.

Lost Time

Payment of lost time is the sole responsibility of the local union unless a subsidy has been authorized by the Regional Director.

Cancellations and Refunds

Cancellations must be received no later than Thursday, July 23, 2026.

Registration fees are non-refundable. Local unions should select alternates to replace delegates no later than Thursday, July 31, 2026. This Conference is an investment in the future of your local union and Veterans Standing Committee.

This official call includes information that should be shared with the local unions in your region.

On-Site Conference Registration

Conference registration for the 2026 delegates of the National Veterans Conference will begin on Sunday, August 9, 2026, in the Lecture Hall from 1 p.m. until 4:45 p.m. (1300 - 1645 hours).

As a reminder, please note that the policy at the UAW Family Education Center is that **NO WEAPONS** can be brought onto the premises.

We would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation with this matter.

Vendors

Any veteran attending the National Veterans Conference must have prior approval from their regional liaison to represent the regional standing committee (Please see attached vendor form).

Displays

If delegates from the locals wish to bring a display, please submit this information to the UAW Veteran's Department, Administrative Assistant, Matthew Uptmor as soon as possible, so that we can review for prior approval.

Once again, we thank you for your continued support.

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Attachments

cc: Assistant Regional Directors
Lorenzo Jamison
Brandon Keatts
Delrico Loyd
Andrea Morrow
Matthew Uptmor
Jason Wade
Fred Weems

2025 UAW NATIONAL VETERANS CONFERENCE
WALTER AND MAY REUTHER FAMILY EDUCATION CENTER

AUGUST 9 - 14, 2026

Attached please find a Vendor Request Form which must be filled out and submitted to the UAW Veteran's Department for approval prior to the conference. All vendors must be representing their UAW Regional Veterans Standing Committee or their local union standing committee. All proceeds from sales must be donated back to the regional standing committee or local standing committee. After consultation with the UAW Compliance Department there should be no vendor selling products for personal gain.

All items must be Union made/American made. Also, vendors will be prohibited from selling their products while the conference is in session.

Please forward this form, along with attachments to your local unions. If you have any questions, please contact Matthew Uptmor at 313-926-5654 or email to muptmor@uaw.net and Michelle Best at 313-926-4423 or email to mbest@uaw.net.

**2026 UAW NATIONAL VETERANS CONFERENCE
VENDOR REQUEST FORM**

Local Union/Region _____
Local Union Number Region

Name of Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Items You Wish to Sell: _____

Regional Liaison _____

Date Approved: _____

Date Denied: _____

**When completed, please mail this form to:

Matthew Uptmor
UAW Veterans Department
8000 East Jefferson
Detroit, MI 48214