

Workers' **rights**, not wrongs

Trade Unions

In Australia a trade union (sometimes called a union, or a labour union) is a collective of workers who band together to achieve common goals. There are unions which cover almost every industry in Australia, and which union you should join is dependent on the sort of work you do and where your workplace is located.

Unions are member-based organisations for which you pay a tax-deductible fee to join and who can act on your behalf to assert your workplace rights or negotiate for better rights for you and others in your workplace.

It is completely legal for every worker in Australia to join a trade union and it is illegal for you for an employer to discriminate against you for joining a union.

In 2017 the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) uncovered systemic underpayment at the Fenner School for the Environment, and as a result of organising union members and advocating for them, casually employed academics received thousands in back pay. More information [here](#).

More recently, the Retail and Fast Food Workers' Union (RAFFWU) is organising a class action lawsuit against Domino's Pizza for systemically underpaying their workers. More information [here](#).

To find the union which covers your job and/or your workplace, contact UnionsACT:

Phone: (02) 6225 8116

Fax: (02) 6225 8117

Email: unionsact@unionsact.org.au



PARSA
ANU postgraduate &
research students'
association