

UTU Local 161 – Newsletter for September - September 14, 2007

Next Union Meeting

Tuesday, October 9, 2007
6:00 p.m.

Boeing Machinists' Hall
9125 15th Place South
Seattle, WA 98108
South Building

New Bids – Sep. 26-Oct 31

The new bids are posted for the end of September and October. Sightseeing products are ending and the Night Ride begins. Remember that the minimum bid for a FT driver will now be 30 hours. The maximum is still 45 hours.

Bid days are as follows:

FT Drivers # 1-30 - Wed., Sep. 19
FT Drivers # 31-62 – Fri., Sep. 21
PT Drivers – All – Sun., Sep. 23

Please notice that there are specific bid TIMES for each category listed above. These times are posted across from the Dispatch Office window.

It is best if you turn in a bid form ahead of the actual day that you bid. You will be contacted if your choices have already been taken by a senior driver. Once again, union reps will be working on the bidding process.

New Letter of Agreement

There has been some confusion regarding Part-time (PT) drivers who elect to go to the Full-time (FT) roster and what exactly that entails. According to our contract, new hires and PT drivers may elect to go to the FT roster if they make themselves available full-time. This was for the purposes of work assignment only.

As we seek to get more drivers in this FT category, the union and management have agreed upon a modification to our contract. In this Letter of Agreement, we have decided to increase the pay rate for those individuals who move to FT. This is an additional incentive to get more drivers to commit their time to GLS. The union sees this as another positive incentive to attract more people into giving full-time availability.

As a result, if you choose to go to the FT roster, you will be paid the FT rate. If you later decide to go back to PT status, your wage rate will also go back to the PT rate, if you have less than 3,000 total hours of employment with GLS. If you are a PT driver who is over the 3,000 hour

threshold, you will continue to get the FT wage rate in accordance with Schedule A of our contract.

SLU & Night Ride Training Classes

Training classes have been scheduled next week for the UW shuttles. If you are interested in driving these products, you must take one of these training classes. Even if you are a charter board driver, if you would like to periodically fill in on the SLU shuttle or the Night Ride, you should sign up for one of these classes. You will be paid at your current wage rate for these training sessions.

Sign up as soon as possible. If you cannot make it in to the office, call the dispatch office and ask them to sign you up.

Vacation Bids for 2008- FT Drivers

Vacation bids will be taken from October 1 to October 21 for the next contract year. Read section 17.02 of the contract. If you know when you would like to have vacation for this next year, fill out a Vacation Bid form from the dispatch office. Put down the dates that you would like to have off. After October 21, the bid forms will be collected and vacations will be given out in seniority order. If you decide to submit a Vacation Request AFTER Oct. 21, it will be awarded based on a space available basis. There are limits as to how many drivers can be gone at the same time. It is outlined in the CBA.

SLU Parking for Breaks at the UW Hospital

South Lake Union drivers should not park vans in the circular drive behind the Medical Center as this is a no-parking / fire zone. It is recommended to park in the loading zone. Be careful to either pull all the way forward, or stay towards the back of the zone so other vans can pull in the middle area. Any questions should be directed to Vice-Chairperson Kiki Garrison.

ADA and Adverse Weather Training Classes

Watch for postings regarding training classes for ADA coaches and Winter driving classes. These should occur sometime in October.

Thought for the Day

A smile is the lighting system of the face, the cooling system of the head and the heating system of the heart.