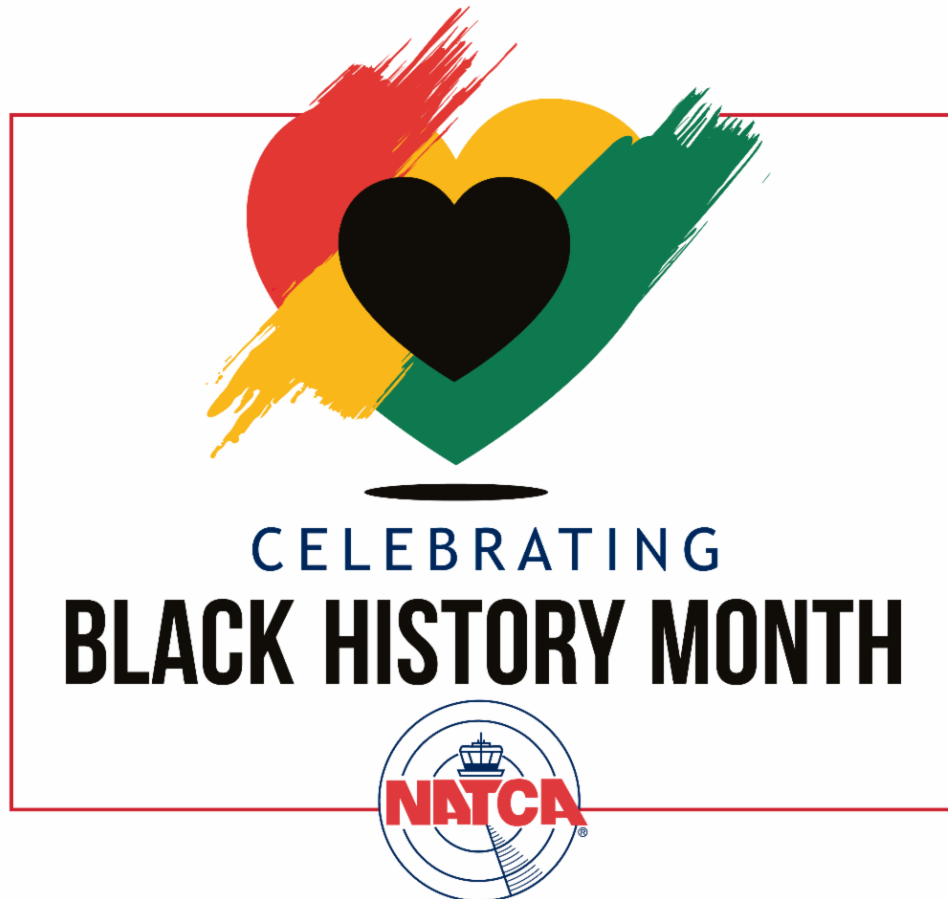




NATCA Celebrates Black History Month

Black History Month celebrates the achievements by Black Americans and recognizes the critical role they have played in U.S. history. Black Americans have led the fight for civil rights, standing with millions in solidarity for the right to organize, fair and livable wages, workers' rights, and safer working conditions. NATCA takes this time to recognize and honor the achievements of Black Americans, both historically and today.



Union Power Grew Significantly in 2023

In an uplifting update from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the AFL-CIO, union membership experienced a notable rise in 2023, with the BLS reporting an overall increase of 139,000 members in union ranks. This growth reflects a broader trend of workers across different industries and sectors advocating for better wages, better benefits, and safer, fairer workplaces. Union membership in the private sector increased by 191,000 members, with a majority of new members under the age of 45.

The surge in union membership can be attributed to successful negotiations that led to [double-digit wage increases for more than 900,000 union members last year](#). AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler highlighted the growing frustration among workers with substandard working conditions and the escalating momentum toward unionization, despite ongoing challenges from union-busting efforts by major corporations.

IT'S BETTER IN A UNION.

In 2023, union workers earned \$1,263
median weekly wages, compared to \$1,090
for non-union workers.

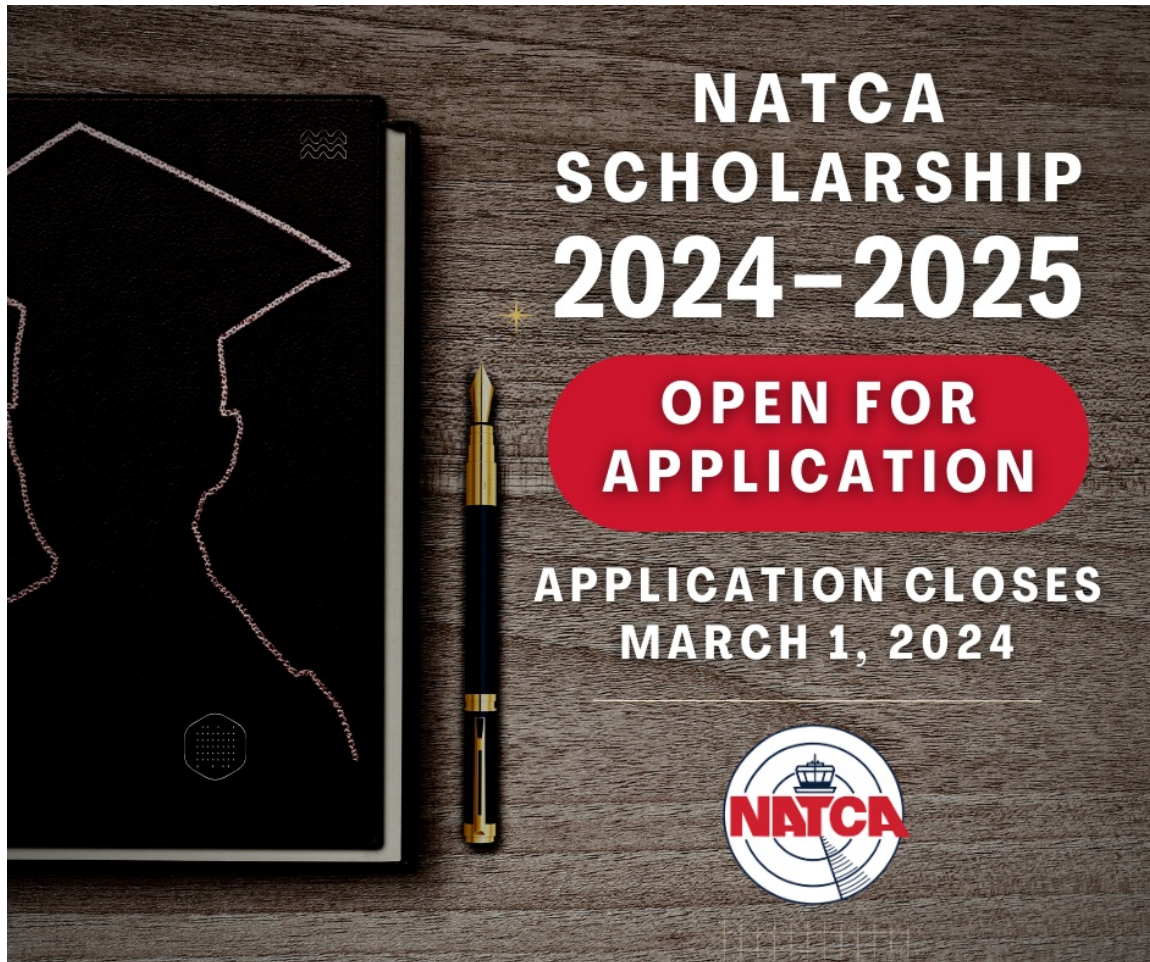


Polling data shows that 71% of Americans support unions, the highest level in nearly 60 years, with 88% of young people showing support for unions. The push for unionization is making strides despite significant opposition, including extensive spending on union-busting tactics by corporations and targeted campaigns from CEOs.

As aviation safety professionals and part of the labor movement, our collective strength is growing as part of a national movement towards greater worker representation and bargaining power. This progress signals a promising future for labor rights and underscores the critical role of NATCA and fellow unions in advocating for fair and dignified working conditions.

2024 NATCA Scholarship Application Open Until March 1

The NATCA scholarship fund is established for the spouses, children, stepchildren, and legally adopted children of active, retired, and deceased NATCA members with continuous membership in good standing of at least two years. These scholarships are for full-time attendance at accredited colleges and universities within the United States and its territories for an undergraduate degree program. The deadline to apply is March 1. The application for the scholarship can be found [here](#).

A promotional graphic for the NATCA Scholarship 2024-2025. The background is a dark wood-grain texture. On the left, there is a black book with a white outline of a graduation cap and a fountain pen with gold accents. The text is centered on the right side. At the top, it says 'NATCA SCHOLARSHIP 2024-2025' in large white letters. Below that, a red rounded rectangle contains the text 'OPEN FOR APPLICATION' in white. Underneath, it says 'APPLICATION CLOSING MARCH 1, 2024' in white. At the bottom right is the NATCA logo, which features a ship's wheel and the acronym 'NATCA' in red.

The application process includes an essay submission. This year's prompt asks candidates to examine the effect of artificial intelligence on workers and labor unions:

The evolution of artificial intelligence (AI) is rapidly changing the way we live. Unions across a broad spectrum of occupations are preparing to address the effects of an increased utilization of AI on their membership. As a student who will soon be entering this changing workplace, discuss how you see AI affecting the careers in which you are interested and what you believe unions should do to offer job protections as new AI processes continue to be implemented.

Please send questions about this process to scholarshipapps@natca.org.

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