



LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEER TRAINING PROGRAM

Any employee who is either contemplating applying for a Locomotive Engineer Training Program (LETP) class or has already been accepted into the program should review the contents of this Section.

Although representation of the craft of locomotive engineer is generally attributed to the other operating union, the UTU does hold the contract and exercises jurisdiction over the training program. Any disputes or problems that may arise during the training period can be contractually addressed through the UTU Local Chairman designated to represent the "E" craft. A complete list of Local Chairmen, and their craft jurisdiction, may be found in Section 2 of this Informational Packet.

Included in this Section is a printed copy of the UTU Training Agreement dated July 19, 1972 and as amended August 25, 1978. While reviewing the agreement, keep in mind that the reference and terminology "fireman (helper)" is synonymous with "trainee". Prior to the October 31, 1985 UTU National Agreement, employees seeking to become a locomotive engineer first established seniority as a fireman and were allowed to work in that capacity to a certain extent when they did not have sufficient seniority to work as an engineer. An employee's tenure as a fireman essentially served as the training program and, thus, the extensive reference to fireman (helper). Although fireman positions are rarely available or utilized in today's operations, all of the craft's agreements and understandings remain in effect and are under the jurisdiction of the UTU.

As with this property's Conductor's Training Agreement, the LETP is based upon a six-day work week and similarly provides for payment at the overtime rate for all time in excess of forty-eight (48) hours during the week. The current weekly rate of pay may be found in the Payroll Rate Tables included in Section 4 of this Informational Packet.

Keep in mind that once you have completed the LETP and have established seniority as an engineer, the UTU can contractually still handle to fruition all claims (merit and discipline) that are generated while working in that craft. Although the UTU is predominantly made up of ground service employees, many engineers have chosen to retain their membership in our Organization. You will also find that many of your UTU Local, General Committee and International officers are also certified locomotive engineers.