

## Lokal Facklig folkbildning equal to Local union popular adult education

We are recruiting participants for union popular adult education for two purposes:

- to offer union members basic knowledge in “why should I join the union?”
- to offer union members possibility to get marks in upper secondary school as described below. With possibility to attend to college of higher learning.

### **Union member basic's:**

A study circle for 20 hours with “the basics in union work” and “why should I be a member”? There are several causes why the union operates this activity; one is to increase the union's presence at workplaces. We also have some important laws in Sweden that concerns the working life that we have to be very careful about. The three most important are: take leave of absence for studying, trade union representatives and the one about work environment. It's very important to keep the workforce educated so the employers don't forget about these law's, witch they seems to do now and then these days.

### **The ABF School, short facts:**

#### Introduction

We have developed The ABF School for people who would like to try to study again. LO and the trade unions are reaching people that are not likely to re-enter education for adults. So far the participants are satisfied.

The ABF School is a way to familiarize themselves with the subjects: mathematics, social studies, Swedish language or English language. The have also the possibility to participate in regular education with the possibility to get marks. Participant's works as usual four days a week and the fifth day are schooldays with the study circle at the ABF School. The groups are small (8-12 participants) and the tutors are used to adults. Tutors are also familiar with the participant's situation and their general background. E.g. it's usual that the participants had a negative opinion about school in their youth.

The fifth weekday when the participant's are having their leave of absence and are at the ABF school the have compensation from LO. LO has for that got funds from the Swedish government. The funds from the government are also used for recruitment of the participant's.

In most cases it is the Local ABF divisions that organize the courses. Sometimes the municipals have bought a whole course. In all cases ABF is responsibly for staff and premises. Courses in ABF's direction are organized all over the country. The big advantage with the ABF School is that the participant can combine work and education without to much loss in their private economy, and also study with other adults and with tutors used to educate adults and also close to their homes.