



The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen Welcomes you to Norfolk Southern

As you have already realized, working for a railroad is completely different from any other place of employment you have had in your past. With that said, remember we have all been where you are right now, regardless of when we hired on, we were all the “new guy” at one time or another. We have all felt that same sense of uncertainty. The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen Division #537 would like to welcome you and help make your transition to this new and exciting time in you and your family’s life as easy as possible.

Here’s a brief history of The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen (BLET). The BLET was the 1st and is the oldest rail labor union in North America. We have been representing engineers and trainmen since 1863. On May 8th 2017 we will be celebrating our 154th year of representing both engineers and trainmen. We recently joined the Rail Conference of The International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT).

The BLET represents over 59,000 Locomotive Engineers, Conductors, Switchmen, Firemen, Brakemen, Hostlers and other train service employees on numerous railroads through out the United States and Canada. Through solidarity, aggressive representation, and education the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen promote and protect the rights, interests and safety of all its members regardless of the craft you are working.

The Railway Labor Act (RLA) guarantees you the right to join the BLET at any time. As a member of the BLET Division #537, your representatives have over 60 years of railroad experience and over 30 years of experience as union representatives working on your behalf. This experience includes, representation for discipline issues, handling time claims, answering questions concerning your agreement, making sure the company honors and adheres to all working agreements, regardless of which craft your in.

As a BLET member you will have several exclusive benefits. You will have the option to purchase very affordable disability insurance, exclusive to all BLET members. This policy will pay you up to \$1,200 a week (60% of your latest gross) for 2 years after a 30 day waiting period for a premium of only \$182.00 a month. The policy will cover any injury or illness that prevents you from working, providing a secure income for you and your family. ***As a new member of the BLET you will not have to take a physical or questionnaire to qualify for this insurance if you purchase it within the first 30 days of membership. After 30 days your eligibility will be determined by a questionnaire and or a physical. Purchasing it as soon as you’re a member of the BLET has its benefits.***

We also have many social functions throughout the year, which are exclusive to all BLET members. We have a BLET Appreciation Day where we provide food, snacks and drinks. This is a great opportunity for us to get together and meet other members. We also have an annual BLET picnic that is opened to all members, their families and friends. We have plenty of food, music, and activities for adults and children to enjoy. We also have our annual BLET Christmas party in December for all the adults to celebrate and unwind during the holidays. All you have to do is show up, unwind, and enjoy.

The BLET Division #537 holds its monthly union meeting on the 1st Thursday of every month. The meeting starts at 10:00 a.m. at “469 Bar and Grill” in New Haven, IN. The meeting is held in an open forum, all BLET members and guests are welcomed. Please stop by and ask any questions, express your concerns, or participate in any way you feel comfortable. And remember, you do not have to wait for the monthly meeting to discuss any issues you may have. Please feel free to contact any of the BLET Union Officers listed below. We will be more than happy to answer any questions and represent you in any way that we can.

*Again, welcome to Norfolk Southern from all of us at the BLET Division #537.
Please don't hesitate to ask any of us for help.*

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