



MOMENTUM

ORGANISING CONFERENCE '26

Handbook

September 2026

Respect @ Work – Respect for all

As a movement we are committed to providing a safe and respectful environment for all workers. As such, we expect all attendees to uphold these values in how they engage with each other at **Momentum 2026**.

The ACTU does not condone any form of harassment or discrimination whatever its form or basis.

We expect all participants to:

1. Treat each other with respect and dignity.
2. Refrain from engaging in any behaviour that may be construed as disrespectful or discriminatory or that may cause another person to feel offended, humiliated or intimidated or create a hostile environment.
3. Respect personal boundaries and consent.

We remind all attendees that sexual harassment includes, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favours, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature that is demeaning or creates a hostile or intimidating environment.

In particular, we remind all unions, that unions also have obligations and a positive duty under the Sex Discrimination Act 1984. This duty includes a vicarious liability over their employees.

We remind all attendees of their obligation and responsibilities in this matter and encourage you and your union to “take all reasonable steps” to prevent unlawful conduct.

If you experience or witness any behaviour that violates these principles, we remind you that the ACTU has a complaints and grievance procedure to deal with such matters. This procedure can be found here: [ACTU Complaints Policy](#).

Nominated people to receive complaints under the Policy are ACTU Executive Officer, Yvette Nash (ynash@actu.org.au 0412 890 306) or ACTU General Manager, Sarah Mitchell (sarah.mitchell@actu.org.au 0417 305 231).

By attending Momentum 2026, you are required to uphold these behavioural expectations and contribute to a positive and inclusive experience for all participants.

Support is Available

Ending sexual and sex-based harassment continues to be a priority for the union movement. Accordingly, some conference sessions may contain content or discussion about these topics. If this discussion raises any issues for you, or if you or someone you know is impacted by these discussions help and support is available. We remind all participants that confidential counselling and support is available to all participants at the services here.

Lifeline

13 11 14

Providing all Australians experiencing emotional distress with access to 24-hour crisis support and suicide prevention services.

Full Stop

1800 211 028

Telephone, online and face to face counselling services for people impacted by sexual, domestic or family violence. Services are free of charge and counsellors are trained trauma specialists.

1800 Respect

1800 737 732

1800RESPECT is available for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to support people impacted by domestic, family or sexual violence.

13 Yarn

13 92 76

13YARN is an Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders crisis support line. Available 24/7. No shame, no judgement, safe place to yarn.

MensLine Australia

1300 789 978

MensLine Australia is a free telephone and online counselling service offering support for Australian men anywhere, anytime.

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Welcome to Momentum 2026

A warm welcome to all participants in Momentum 2026.

This handbook is your practical guide to Momentum 2026. It includes the conference program, registration and lanyard information, access and inclusion supports, venue details, food, Wi-Fi, travel, quiet and prayer rooms, emergency information, sponsors, exhibitors and our shared expectations for a safe, respectful and comradely conference. Please use it throughout the conference to plan your sessions, find your way around, access support if you need it and make the most of your time with comrades from across the movement

We meet at a time when unions are growing. More workers are joining unions. More workers are covered by collective agreements. Wages are once again rising faster than inflation. The gender pay gap is narrowing. New rights at work have been won and new protections secured. Across the country, working people are experiencing the real benefits that come when workers stand together and organise.

These achievements matter. They represent years of hard work, determination and collective action. They remind us that progress is possible and that unions continue to be one of the most powerful forces for fairness, dignity and equality in Australian society.

But we also know that progress is never guaranteed. Working people continue to face significant challenges. Economic insecurity, inequality and division remain powerful forces. Around the world and here at home, we are seeing the rise of movements that seek to divide people rather than bring them together.

The union movement has faced challenges before. Throughout our history, we have overcome division with solidarity, fear with hope and injustice with collective action. We have always been strongest when we organise, learn from one another and act together.

That is what Momentum is all about.

Over the next two days, we will share ideas, sharpen our skills, learn from experience and strengthen the relationships that power our movement. Together, we will build on the momentum we have created and prepare for the work ahead: confident in what we have achieved, prepared for the fights ahead and determined to keep winning for working people.

Welcome to Momentum. The movement is growing, and the future is ours to build together.

Program-in-brief

Tuesday 1st September

Huddles	7:30 am, 8:00 am & 5:00 pm
Registrations Open	7:30 am
Coffee (barista)	8:00 am - midday
Welcome & Opening Plenary	9:00 am
Conference Photo & Solidarity Actions	4:15 pm
Conference Dinner	6:30 pm

Wednesday 2nd September

Huddles	7:30 am & 8:00 am
Registrations desk open	8:00 am
Coffee (barista)	8.00 am - midday
Conference continues	9:00 am
Conference concludes	4.00 pm

To see the full program at any time, use the QR code here (and on the back of your lanyard).



Registration Information

Arrival at the Conference

Each ACTU affiliate has advised the ACTU of the delegates attending the Organising Conference.

Upon arrival, all attendees should proceed directly to the Registration Booths located in the foyer outside Halls 1 and 2 to print and collect their conference lanyard.

Lanyards must be worn while attending conference activities. Conference dinner registrations will be indicated on individual lanyards.

Sponsors and exhibitors should attend the Registration Desk on arrival to collect their lanyards.

Registration Hours

Tuesday 1 September

7:30am – 5:30pm

Wednesday 2 September

8:00am – 2:00pm

Accessibility Information

Our aim is to make the Momentum Organising Conference as accessible as possible.

How to ask about access needs

As part of your registration for the event, you may have provided information about any access needs you have that would support your participation in the conference. Sharing this information ahead of time helps us prepare and make sure your conference experience is a good one. You do not need to disclose any diagnosis or medical information unless you choose to.

If someone else completed the registration on your behalf, you can contact our Disability Inclusion Officer using the email address below to let us know about any access needs and help us make sure you are supported.

Our Disability Inclusion Officer may contact you to discuss any tailored support you may need. You can also email them directly at emullane@actu.org.au.

Venue accessibility.

Lifts and escalators connect the car park to all public areas of the venue. Accessible toilets are available on the ground and first floor. Rooms and event spaces have double doors that measure 1980 mm when fully open. Hearing loop technology is available on request. Service animals are welcome. Live captioning will be provided throughout each of our plenaries, live captioning in workshops has been arranged in requested workshops.

The venue's [welcome story](#) includes information about travelling to the venue and accessing the building. It also outlines which areas may be noisy, crowded or brightly lit, and where to find quieter spaces throughout the venue. A quiet, low-sensory room is available for conference participants and will be clearly marked on the program.

If you require any additional access support that is not listed above, please contact emullane@actu.org.au so we can assist with your individual requirements.

Parenting facilities

A parent's room is located between Foyers A and B. Baby change facilities are available in accessible toilets, on the ground and first floor.

Quiet Room

A quiet, low-sensory room is available for conference participants and will be clearly marked on the program.

It is Rooms 10 & 11 located on the first floor.

Prayer Room

A Prayer Room is available in Organisers Office 3 (First Floor).

Please note these rooms will not be staffed so your appreciation and understanding of the needs of those who are using these spaces is appreciated.

Conference Sessions

You can view the full agenda [here](#) to get an overview of the program for the event.

There are four plenary sessions between 60 mins and 90 mins long. There are four workshop/breakout sessions that will run for 75 minutes long. These have a range of delivery styles from presentations to more hands-on discussions and workshops. The program uses the spoon theory to help you understand the level of interaction each session might take.

Sponsors and exhibitors are invited to participate in all plenary sessions and are welcome to attend these throughout the conference. Please note that workshop and huddles are reserved for conference delegates and are not open to sponsors or exhibitors.

Sessions have been assigned a social engagement rating based on spoon theory to help participants understand the energy, each session may require. Spoon theory is commonly used by people with chronic pain, disability, and neurodivergence to manage energy, including social engagement.

Some of the elements considered in allocating spoons to each session include social engagement and interaction, denser information e.g., lots of stats or data or complicated concepts, difficult or traumatic materials, larger groups, or environmental elements.

- **One spoon- Lecture or presentation style** where participants are mostly listening with optional questions.
- **Two spoons – Mostly presentation or lecture with some engagement discussion and activities** with other participants
- **Three spoons –workshop focused** on group interactions and working together in groups.

Live captioning & hearing loops

All plenary sessions will have live captioning on the screen captioning available in workshops by request.

The venue is a hearing loop enabled, and a headset or access to the technology can be provided on request.. We will work with participants requiring hearing loops or captioning to identify your preferred sessions in advance, so the relevant support is allocated to your sessions. Please email emullane@actu.org.au our Disability Inclusions officer by the 31 August if you need support in with these options.

General & Venue Information

Getting to and from the venue

Information about getting to and from the venue, and a map of the Convention and Exhibition Centre can be found in the conference program [here](#).

Amenities

First Aid facilities

GCCEC has an in-house Safety and Security Department which operates 24/7. These Officers are trained and qualified in all aspects of emergency response including First Aid. For all on-site Safety, Security and Emergency related enquiries please call (07) 5504 4050.

Private rooms

Accessible, purpose-built rooms for parents and caregivers are available. A prayer room as well as a Quiet room have been arranged.

Charging stations

Conveniently located charging stations for laptops and mobile phones are available in Hall 1.

Cashless Venue

GCCEC is a fully cashless venue. Payment is accepted via card only for all onsite orders and requests, including car parking, food and beverage and technical services. All credit cards, debit cards, Apple Pay and Android Pay are accepted.

Complimentary Wi-Fi

GCCEC offers complimentary Wi-Fi that can be accessed throughout the venue. This service is suitable for checking emails and basic web-browsing; however, connections are not guaranteed due to the varying number of users connected at one time.

Network name: ACTU Conf
Password: ACTU2026#

Emergency Management

Emergency Medical Attention

For emergency medical treatment requiring ambulance attendance, please contact GCCEC Security on (07) 5504 4050, Defibrillators are also readily available throughout the venue.

Fire and Emergency Plan

In the case of a fire in the venue:

- a) If safe to do so, extinguish the fire using the nearest appropriate fire extinguisher.
- b) Contact GCCEC Security Control on Ext. 999 or 4050 or (07) 5504 4050; OR
- c) Break the glass at a manual call point; OR
- d) Call Emergency Services on 000

GCCEC ensures that there are always Security Officers and trained emergency wardens nearby to provide assistance in case of emergency.

Emergency Evacuation Procedures

In the event of an emergency evacuation, designated GCCEC staff will act as wardens to assist in the movement of all staff, exhibitors, and visitors to the designated outdoor assembly points.

Two distinct alarms will sound once the fire alarm is activated or if there is a pending emergency. The Chief Fire Warden will announce information through the PA system within the venue.

Emergency Equipment – Fire Extinguishers & Fire Hose Reels

Fire Hose Reel cupboards are located throughout the building and contain fire hose reels and fire extinguishers for use in the event of a fire only. Access to these cupboards cannot be obstructed in any way.

Additional fire extinguishers are required for cooking installations, gas fires, pyrotechnics, fire acts or anywhere there is an increased fire risk.

Evacuation Procedures

In the case of an emergency in the Centre, please stay calm. Please follow the instructions given by GCCEC staff who are fully trained for an emergency.

Food and Beverages

Refreshments will be served in the Exhibition area, Hall 1. There is also a café within GCCEC with the local precinct also offering a wide selection of food and beverages at varying prices.

Photographs and Social Media

Group photos will be able to be organised, speak to one of the ACTU's roving photographers to arrange a shot with your delegation. So we can capture this momentous occasion, an entire Conference attendees photo will be taken on Tuesday afternoon.

Storage of luggage at GCECC

On the final day of Momentum, attendees can make use of the luggage storage area located between Halls 2 & 3. Please ensure your belongings are appropriately secured, as items are stored at the owner's risk and Momentum accepts no responsibility for lost, stolen or damaged items.

Smoking & Vaping

Smoking, including E-cigarettes, vaping and similar devices, is not permitted in the venue or within 15 metres of any venue entry point.

Sponsors and Exhibitors

The premium sponsor for Momentum 2026 Organising Conference at Booth 4 is:



You can find them, and exhibitions from a range of organisations providing services to unions and union members in Hall 1 on the Ground Level.



Aware Super	10
Bluegum	1
Essential Media	5
Hall Payne Lawyers	11
HESTA	9



Slater + Gordon Lawyers 8

Union Aid Abroad - APHEDA 2

Union Health 6

Union Shopper 7

We also thank our non-exhibiting sponsors:



IFM Investors

Industry Fund Services

Industry Super Australia

Maurice Blackburn Lawyers

Premium Sponsor



Partners



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors

