

Policy & Advocacy Summer Fellowship: <https://educationalequity.org/fellowships/policy-advocacy-summer-fellowship>

About the Policy & Advocacy Summer Fellowship

Every student benefits when leaders with classroom experience are making policy.

Whether you're interested in getting more involved from the classroom or pursuing a full-time policy or advocacy role, the Policy & Advocacy Summer Fellowship will give you the tools to become a policy decision-maker and better understand what work will help you achieve impact.

Fellows work with a host organization for a paid, eight-week, full-time placement over the summer while also participating in leadership development programming.

What past fellows are saying

"Stepping out of the classroom and into this fellowship, I've been able to get my career started in the education policy world. It allowed me to develop skills and make connections with people that led to a full-time job."

— [Regina Ray, 2015 Policy & Advocacy Summer Fellow](#)

"I learned the necessity and incredible complexity of working in educational policy in the state of Alabama, as well as what skills not included in a job description are necessary to do it well."

—LleweLLyn Cooper, 2017 Policy & Advocacy Summer Fellow, The Schools Foundation

"Before the fellowship, I didn't realize I had the potential to be an elected official or leader in these spaces. LEE has helped me actualize my power.

"I have the ability to be an advocate for my students, especially because — as a black woman — I know what it's like to be a black person in America. We need leaders who make decisions that positively impact our kids."

— [Kiersten Gibson-Cooper, 2016 Policy & Advocacy Summer Fellow](#)

"Through the fellowship, I experienced what advocacy looks like on the ground. I saw the ins and outs of how policies — both external and internal — impact the work within these organizations. I built long-lasting relationships with my colleagues. I saw the real impact on the lives of people and communities when they have strong partnerships with advocacy organizations. And as a result, I was inspired to pursue a career in policy in advocacy."

—Beatriz Padron, 2017 Policy & Advocacy Summer Fellow, United Way of Greater Los Angeles

Who are the hosts?

LEE partners with governments; elected officials; and high-impact policy, advocacy, and organizing organizations to host fellows in more than 20 regions around the country.

Previous host organizations

Elected officials' offices: New York State Assembly Member Robert J. Rodriguez; Office of Board Member Kelly Gonez, Los Angeles Unified School District; Baltimore City Councilman Zeke Cohen

Local, state, and federal governments: Louisiana Department of Education; U.S. Congressional Committee on Education & the Workforce

School districts: Atlanta Public Schools, Denver Public Schools, New York City Department of Education, Los Angeles Unified School District

Policy organizations: Center for American Progress, New America Foundation, Great Education Colorado

Advocacy groups: Advance Illinois, Enroll Indy, Great Oakland Public Schools Leadership Center, Padres y Jóvenes Unidos

What to expect as a fellow

- Work at a host organization for a full-time, eight-week placement oriented around a substantive project.
- Gain exceptional training and hands-on experience, build a community of equity-minded peers, and network with local changemakers while learning how education policy gets made.
- Participate in regional trainings and networking events to develop your understanding of the regional policy landscape and the policymaking process.
- Work with a personal leadership development coach to clarify your next career steps.
- Fellows are responsible for their housing; LEE does not provide it.
- LEE or your host organization will provide a living stipend of at least \$2,250 to every fellow. Those who need additional assistance may apply for need-based funding.

Who should apply?

Recent TFA alumni or current corps members who meet the following criteria are strongly encouraged to apply:

- Demonstrated interest in serving students and families through a career in policy, advocacy, organizing, or increased involvement from the classroom
- A geographical, professional, or personal connection to the requested placement city
- Experience with research, writing, and analysis, and strong written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to fulfill all aspects of the program (applicants who cannot commit at least seven weeks to a full-time fellowship will not be considered)
- Previous professional experience and/or graduate degrees preferred (though not required)

Members who have already participated in the Policy & Advocacy Summer Fellowship are not eligible to participate again.

Frequently asked questions

For additional details about the fellowship, [check the FAQ](#).

If you're unable to find an answer to your question, [schedule a time to talk](#) with the fellowship manager or email pasf@educationalequity.org.

Apply now

Apply by January 15, 2019, for priority consideration and first pick of placements.

After January 15, applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until March 15.