

PENNSYLVANIA EDUCATION POLICY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

2020-2021 APPLICATION FORM



- Pennsylvania's Premier Education Policy Leadership Program
- 600+ graduates: 1999 to 2020
- 2020-2021 Fellowship Program Begins in September

Education Policy Fellows:

- develop a broadened understanding of the public policy process and the various aspects of education policy;
- enhance their communication and decision making skills;
- strengthen their capacity for leadership; and
- expand their network of professional colleagues.

2020-2021 Pennsylvania Education Policy Fellowship Program

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the format and schedule of the 2020-2021 PA Education Policy Program is changed from the traditional Fellowship Program held since 1999.

The 2020-2021 Program will be conducted in briefer, more frequent, and mostly online sessions.

The content will be substantially the same as the traditional Fellowship Program, with some changes necessitated by the new format and a desire to reduce costs to sponsors in these uncertain fiscal times. But with the new virtual format, the Program will be able to broaden the scope of experience and perspective represented by our session leaders and guests.

The commitment of EPLC remains the same. The Fellowship Program will continue to be Pennsylvania's premier education policy leadership program for education, community, policy and advocacy leaders!

The 2020-2021 Fellowship Program includes:

- Two 3-hour online sessions to "set the stage" in September
- Sixteen 2.5-hour online sessions with two sessions per month October to May
- Team Policy Project with Fellows developing Public Policy Proposals for May presentation
- Two-day (2-hours per day) virtual Regional Leadership Forum (with Michigan, New York and Ohio) with presentations from Gettysburg Battlefield guides and Army War College faculty
- Day-on-Hill in Washington DC in April with briefings and lawmaker visits (PA alumni invited)
- Day-on-Hill in Harrisburg in May with briefings and lawmaker visits (PA alumni invited)
- Reduced tuition rate and reduced travel expenses for Fellows and sponsors!

Fellowship Program coordinators are:

Amy Morton - PA State Coordinator for National Institute for School Leadership (NISL); Former classroom teacher, intermediate unit executive director; and Executive Deputy Secretary of PA Department of Education

Ron Cowell - Executive Director of Education Policy and Leadership Center; Former Member of PA House of Representatives, Chair of House Education Committee, and Member of PA State Board of Education

The Education Policy Fellowship Program annually brings together a diverse cohort of professionals from education, human services, government, business, and community organizations.

You are invited to apply if you have:

- A track record of making things happen – inside and across agencies/organizations.
- A full-time professional position and substantive work experience.
- A bachelor's degree or its equivalent.
- The endorsement and financial support of your employer or another sponsoring organization.
- A commitment to personal and professional development.

What is my commitment if I am accepted as a Fellow?

- Participate in 18 virtual sessions (2.5 - 3.0 hours) approximately twice a month from September through May.
- Participate in a virtual two-day Regional Leadership Forum (2.0 hours per day).
- Participate in Days-in-the-Capitol in Washington DC (April) and Harrisburg (May).
- Complete independent policy research as a member of a small team to develop a policy proposal.
- Share your experience and knowledge with other Fellows through presentations, discussions with guests and in small group discussions, and in team projects.

How will my organization benefit from my participation in the Fellowship Program?

Employers gain:

- Access to a professional development program with a proven track record.
- Better informed, more skillful employees.
- Employees who are ready to assume more leadership responsibilities.
- Expanded networks that enhance the organization's ability to access key leaders and decision makers who shape public policy on behalf of children and education.

What is my employer's commitment in supporting my participation?

- Provide release time for your participation in the virtual sessions and for the "Day-in-the-Capitol" sessions in Harrisburg and Washington DC.
- Pay a tuition fee of \$1,995 plus travel-related costs for meetings in Harrisburg and Washington DC. (Tuition includes meals for the Harrisburg, Washington DC, and June graduation events, and also any regional events that may be scheduled).

Does participation in the Fellowship Program qualify for Act 45, Act 48 and SBA credits?

- The Program is not currently an approved Act 45 or Act 48 credit provider.
- EPLC is approved to provide State Board of Accountancy (SBA) credit to certified public accountants.

Pennsylvania EPFP 2020-2021 Calendar and Agenda

DATE	SEMINAR TOPICS
Session 1 Thursday, September 17 9:00 a.m. - Noon	Introductions and Setting the Stage for Fellowship Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introductions to Program and Fellows ▪ Intersection of Local-State-Federal Education Policy ▪ Politics, Elections, and Public Policy in Pennsylvania ▪ Overview of Key Pennsylvania Education Policy Issues
Session 2 Friday, September 18 9:00 a.m. - Noon	Making State Education Policy in Pennsylvania <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ "State of the Child" in Pennsylvania ▪ Roles of the State Board of Education and IRRC ▪ Roles of School Districts and School Boards
Regional Leadership Forum, Part 1 Thursday, October 8 10:00 a.m. - Noon <i>(A virtual session held jointly with other States)</i>	Lessons in Leadership on the Gettysburg Battlefield led by Licensed Battlefield Guides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Virtual tour and discussion of the Gettysburg Battlefield with Focus on Strategic Decisions that Directed the Actions of Union and Confederate Armies
Regional Leadership Forum, Part 2 Friday, October 9 10:00 a.m. - Noon <i>(A virtual session held jointly with other States)</i>	Lessons in Strategic Leadership from U.S. Army War College Faculty <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Leadership Lessons Learned from Gettysburg ▪ Institutional Leadership and Managing Change ▪ Developing Strategic Leaders
Session 3 Friday, October 16 9:00 am - 11:30 a.m.	The Education Policy Making Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introduction to Policy Project and Identification of Project Teams ▪ Policy Players, Media, and the Process ▪ Role of Research in Education Policy
Session 4 Friday, October 30 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Leadership and Ethics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Definitions and Characteristics of Ethical Leadership ▪ Leadership for Diversity, Equity, and Justice ▪ PA Ethics Commission and Public Officials Ethics Law ▪ Professional Standards and Practices Commission
Session 5 Friday, November 6 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	A Changing Education Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic ▪ Equity and Poverty—Implications for Policymakers and Educators ▪ Trauma-Informed Education
Session 6 Friday, November 20 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Meeting the Needs of an Increasingly Diverse & Mobile Student Population <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PDE Programs and Services for Students, Educators, and Districts ▪ Serving Students with Special Needs ▪ Challenges for Rural School Districts
Session 7 Friday, December 4 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Ready for Success in College, Career and Citizenship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nurturing an Educated Citizenry and Educated Workforce ▪ Ready for Success - 21st Century Skills, Counseling and 339 Plans ▪ Assuring Access to Affordable and Quality Early Childhood Programs
Session 8 Friday, December 18 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	STEM and Workforce Development Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Projecting Pennsylvania's Workforce Needs ▪ STEM and Career and Technical Education
Session 9 Friday, January 8 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Technology and School Choices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vouchers, Charters, Home School, and Public School Choices ▪ Using Technology to Support Educational Choices and Equity
Session 10 Friday, January 22 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Recruiting, Preparing and Retaining Teachers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A Teacher Shortage - Implications for Educator Preparation Programs ▪ Supporting and Retaining New Teachers ▪ Severe Shortage of Minority Teachers
Session 11 Friday, February 5 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Postsecondary Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Governance and Funding of Higher Education in Pennsylvania ▪ Postsecondary Access, Affordability, and Quality ▪ Higher Education Accountability and Accreditation
Session 12 Friday, February 19 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	P-12 Education Finance Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ History and Fundamentals of P-12 Finance in PA ▪ Governor's Proposed 2021-2022 State Education Budget ▪ District Budget Process and Challenges for School District Officials
Session 13 Friday, March 5 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Pennsylvania Budget and Fiscal Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PA State Budget and Re ▪ State Fiscal Forecast, Priorities, and Revenue Options

The Fellowship Program is an excellent opportunity to learn from the leaders and policy makers in Pennsylvania and Washington whose decisions impact the students in our classrooms every day. The exchange of ideas, the knowledge and commitment of the staff, and the relationships built throughout the year offer a rich and varied learning experience unlike any other.

W. Gerard Oleksiak (EPFP 2011-2012)
Vice President, Pennsylvania State Education Association

The Fellowship Program has provided a thorough study of education policy and the dynamics of policymaking at the state and federal levels. This experience has invigorated me to advocate for all students to have access to a high-quality, well-rounded, and well-funded public education.

Ronald Sofo, Ph.D. (EPFP 2014-2015)
CEO/Principal, City Charter Public High School

The Fellowship Program has been instrumental in my development and growth as a school leader. After each session, I genuinely felt that I had gained a deeper insight and understanding of the issues that face public education and higher education, and the plausible solutions needed.

Siobhan Leavy, Ed.D. (EPFP 2016-2017)
Director of Pupil Services, Coatesville Area School District
Chester County Intermediate Unit

The Fellowship Program has provided me a deep understanding about how policy affects and influences education. The EPFP content, presenters, and opportunities to network have served as valuable learning experiences and I would encourage others who are interested in the education and policy world connection to participate in this program.

Christine Anne Royce, Ed.D. (EPFP 2014-2015)
Professor and Chairperson, Department of Teacher Education, Shippensburg University

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Session 14 Friday, March 19 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Family, School and Community Partnerships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School and Community Partnerships to Support Students Parent Engagement & Nurturing Parent Leaders
Session 15 Friday, April 9 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Building Partnerships and Public Advocacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaboration and Building Coalitions Effective Advocacy - Making an Impact with Public Officials
Day-on-the-Hill in DC Tuesday-Wednesday April 20-21 (Schedule, Agenda & Format subject to change depending on COVID-19 restrictions)	Pennsylvania EPFP in Washington DC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday Evening Dinner with Guest Speaker Wednesday Breakfast and Policy Briefings Hill Visits Planned and Conducted by Fellows & PA Alumni Optional Capitol Tour
Session 16 Friday, April 30 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	The Arts, Humanities & Cultural Resources for Students and Educators <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting "Well-Rounded" Education School Partnerships with Art and Cultural Organizations
Session 17 Friday, May 7 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Team Policy Project Presentations - Contributing to the Education Policy Agenda
Session 18 Friday, May 14 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Team Policy Project Presentations—Contributing to the Education Policy Agenda
Day-on-the-Hill in Harrisburg Wednesday, May 26 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (Schedule, Agenda & Format subject to change depending on COVID-19 restrictions)	Day at the State Capitol <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morning Briefings by Key Education Policy Staff Visits to Policymaker Offices - Present Project Briefings Optional Tour of Capitol PA Alumni Invited
Graduation Luncheon Wednesday, June 9 Noon - 2:30 p.m. (Harrisburg-area location TBD)	Graduation and Recognition of Fellows, Sponsors and 2020-2021 Speakers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plus Presentation of Alumni Awards

As opportunities arise, one or more virtual sessions with special guests and/or other state sites may also be scheduled.

Pending decisions in coming months by the Institute for Educational Leadership, there may be an added opportunity to participate in several national virtual activities throughout the year at an additional cost.

The EPFP has allowed me to experience more divergent points of view than in my 30 years working in education. I've learned to think globally and understand multiple points of view, which helps to move education policy forward.

Michael D. Pawlik
(EPFP 2016-2017)
Superintendent, East Lycoming School District

The PA Education Policy Fellowship Program has been the most meaningful professional development opportunity of my career in education. Through the fellowship, I gained a strong understanding of statewide education policy issues and the overall policy making process, key stakeholders, and how to turn a simple idea into an effective policy proposal. I strongly recommend this opportunity to anyone passionate about education and looking for ways to increase their effectiveness in this field!

Ayana Lewis, Esq.
(EPFP 2018-2019)
Director of Strategic Partnerships, School District of Philadelphia

The EPFP has provided a forum to learn more about the political landscape that, for better or worse, shapes and shifts my role as an education leader. The presentations, networking, project development, and Washington seminar provided many stimulating conversations that challenged perspectives. This was a learning experience that has increased my ability to navigate the ever-changing world of education.

Melanie M. Calender, Ed.D.
(EPFP 2016-2017)
Assistant Superintendent,
Warwick School District

After serving 18 years on my school board, the EPFP was exactly what I needed to motivate and inspire me to continue my strong, active commitment to public education. I also have a much better understanding of policy advocacy. The opportunity to network with so many education leaders is unique. The topics we covered included guest speakers who were all highly qualified in their areas of expertise. The Washington Policy Seminar and the two days in Gettysburg and at the U.S. Army War College were invaluable.

Art Levinowitz, Ph.D.
(EPFP 2016-2017)
School Board President, School District of
Upper Dublin

The experiences throughout the year have been outstanding. I could never have imagined gaining such knowledge that I can use in my career as an educator and even in my personal life. The connections made with the guest speakers and especially with the other Fellows will be treasured for a lifetime. While I have always had an interest in policy and advocacy for the education and wellness of our youth, I have been highly rewarded in learning more and becoming even more motivated to keep learning how it all works.

Sandy Shacklady-White
(EPFP 2018-2019)
Educational Consultant, PA Training and
Technical Assistance Network

PENNSYLVANIA EDUCATION POLICY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Sponsored by The Education Policy and Leadership Center

2020-2021 APPLICATION FORM

Name of Applicant _____

Professional Title _____

Organization/Institution _____

Work Address _____

Office Phone _____

Home County _____

Home Address _____

Home / Mobile Phone _____

E-mail _____

Education (Please cite most recent experience first)

University/College _____

Degree _____

Date _____

Work Experience (Please list current position first)

Title _____

Dates Employed _____

Employer's Name & Address _____

Title _____

Dates Employed _____

Employer's Name & Address _____

SBA Credits

The Fellowship Program is certified to provide State Board of Accountancy (SBA) credits to certified public accountants for all the program sessions. Please check here if you are interested in receiving SBA credits.

SBA Credit _____

The Employer/Sponsor Endorsement on reverse side must be completed for the application to be considered.

ENDORSEMENT:

TO THE SUPERVISOR/EMPLOYING AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE:

2020-2021 Pennsylvania Education Policy Fellows are expected to participate in eighteen sessions of approximately 2.5 to 3.0 hours each presented virtually about twice each month between September 2020 and May 2021, plus a Day-in-the-Capitol in Washington DC during April 2021 and a Day-in-the-Capitol in Harrisburg during May 2021. The program tuition of \$1,995 plus any necessary travel expenses are paid by the employing /sponsoring agency and/or the Fellow.

Your signature affirms (1) your employee's release time for full participation in the 2020-2021 Fellowship Program and (2) payment of program-related costs, including the program tuition of \$1,995.

If you have any questions, please contact Ron Cowell at 412-298-4796 or cowell@epfc.org.

(If the applicant's schedule or budget will not allow participation in the March 2021 national policy seminar, a discounted tuition rate may be available for the program without the national program component.)

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

Applicant's Printed Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISOR/SPONSOR

Supervisor/Sponsor's Printed Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Supervisor's Title _____

Supervisor's Organization/Institution _____

Office Address _____

Office Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

Pennsylvania Education Policy Fellowship Program
The Education Policy and Leadership Center
P.O. Box 25
Camp Hill, PA 17001

Enrollment is limited. Please apply early.

Pennsylvania Education Policy Fellowship Program Past Seminar Speakers

Participants in the EPPF will have the opportunity to interact with many of Pennsylvania's leaders and education practitioners, who represent a variety of perspectives on education policy issues. Although this is not an all-inclusive list, the following people have been speakers in past EPPF seminars. Titles and organizations listed are the positions the speakers held at the time of their presentations.

Bonita Allen, President, Pennsylvania PTA

Colonel Charles D. Allen, Professor, Department of Command, Leadership and Management, U.S. Army War College

Jodi Askins, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Association for the Education of Young Children

John Baer, Author and Political Reporter, Philadelphia Daily News & Philadelphia Inquirer

Dr. Joseph Bard, Executive Director, PA Association of Rural and Small Schools

Gene Barr, President and CEO, PA Chamber of Business and Industry

Elizabeth Bolden, Executive Director, PA Commission for Community Colleges

Judith Bookhamer, Ph.D., Executive Director, PA School Counselors Association

Diane Bosak, Vice President for Workforce Strategies & Policy, Achieving the Dream

Corinne Brandt, Regulatory Analyst, Independent Regulatory Review Commission

Lee Burket, Chief, Bureau of Career and Technical Education, Pennsylvania Department of Education

Robert Caruso, Executive Director, State Ethics Commission

Donna Cooper, Secretary of Policy and Planning, Office of the Governor

Shane F. Crosby, Executive Director and Legal Counsel, Professional Standards and Practices Commission

Dr. Mark D. DiRocco, Executive Director, PA Association of School Administrators

Jamie Dunlap, Director of Arts in Education, PA Council on the Arts

Dr. Joan Duvall-Flynn, President, NAACP PA State Conference

Daniel W. Fogarty, Director of Workforce Development & COO, Berks County Workforce Development Board

Tom Foley, President, Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of PA

Dr. Edward Fuller, Director, Penn State Center for Education Evaluation and Policy Analysis

Dr. Peter H. Garland, Executive Vice Chancellor, Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education

Thomas Gentzel, Executive Director, National School Boards Association

Charlie Gerow, CEO, Quantum Communications

Thomas Gluck, Executive Director, PA Association of Intermediate Units

Beth Hager, Director, State Museum of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

Jay Himes, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials

Holly Jobe, President, International Society for Technology in Education

Robin Jones, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Education Foundations

Julie Kane, Policy Director, Pennsylvania Department of Education

Kari King, President and CEO, Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children

Matthew Knittel, Director, Independent Fiscal Office

Mark Lafer, Proprietor, Mark Lafer Consulting and A College 4U

Marcus S. Lingenfelter, Director of State Relations, National Science + Math Initiative

Maud Lyon, President, Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance

Dr. G. Terry Madonna, Director, Center for Politics & Public Affairs, Franklin & Marshall College

Nathan G. Mains, Executive Director, Pennsylvania School Boards Association

Roberta M. Marcus, Master School Board President, Parkland School District

Carmen M. Medina, Chief, Division of Student Services, Pennsylvania Department of Education

Ana Meyers, Executive Director, PA Coalition of Public Charter Schools

Glenn R. Miller, Deputy Secretary for the Office of Commonwealth Libraries/State Librarian, PA Department of Education

Jeff Miller, Budget Analyst, House Republican Appropriations Committee

Karen Molchanow, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Board of Education

Dr. Richard D. Nilsen, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development

Shileste Overton-Morris, Director, Center for Schools and Communities

Dr. Kyle L. Peck, Co-Director, Center for Online Innovation in Learning, Penn State University

John T. Pulver, Special Project Consultant, Pennsylvania Association of Career & Technical Administrators

Dr. Linda Rhen, Assistant Professor of Special Education, Penn State Harrisburg

Dr. Howard B. Richman, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Homeschoolers Accreditation Agency

Pedro A. Rivera, Secretary of Education, PA Department of Education

Aaron Shenck, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Association of Private School Administrators

Mark S. Singel, President, The Winter Group

Abby Smith, Director of Education, Team PA Foundation

Dr. Harris Sokoloff, Director, Center for School Study Councils, University of Pennsylvania

Michael Soskil, 2017-2018 PA Teacher of the Year

Susan Spicka, Executive Director, Education Voters of Pennsylvania

Jessica Stern, ProEthica, Educational Testing Service

Rev. Sandra L. Strauss, Director of Public Advocacy, Pennsylvania Council of Churches

Dr. John J. "Ski" Sygielski, President, Harrisburg Area Community College

Kelli Thompson, Assistant Director of Government Relations, Pennsylvania State Education Association

Christopher Wakeley, Executive Director, House Education Committee

Ashley Lenker White, Government Affairs Director and Executive Director, EdPAC, PA School Boards Association

Kirk Williard, Ed.D., Director of Career, Technical & Customized Education, Chester County Intermediate Unit

Michael Wood, Executive Budget Manager, Division of Education, Governor's Budget Office, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Dr. Gerald Zahorchak, Secretary of Education, PA Department of Education

Steve Zori, Executive Director, State & District Partnerships, The College Board

Schedule at a Glance

The Education Policy and Leadership Center
P.O. Box 25
Camp Hill, PA 17001
(717) 260-9900
www.eplc.org

Ron Cowell, Executive Director
E-mail: cowell@eplc.org