

The Education Policy Fellowship Program is a nationally recognized fellowship program that engages a diverse and collaborative community of strategic leaders to promote equitable education policy. EPFP provides a unique professional development laboratory in which Fellows apply new insights and practice new skills. The program content explores three core elements of professional development – policy, leadership, and networking – which are built on a foundation of equity. We know that work toward equity may take many forms, but at a minimum addresses systemic barriers to opportunities. We know that equity and equality are not synonymous. In furtherance of these values:

- We recruit to ensure diversity in Fellowship participants
- We identify and address barriers to participation by a diverse group of Fellows
- We include diverse perspectives in our curriculum, speakers, and programming
- We intentionally address equity in the ways we study, examine, and influence policy, leadership, and networking

Policy

Goal Statement: Fellows learn about the processes and outcomes of policy making and implementation at local, national, and state levels.

Policy Competencies: By the completion of the Fellowship experience, each Fellow...

1. Knows what the key issues are in contemporary education policy, whose interests and what values they involve, and the broad background and policy context of each
2. Understands state and federal legislative, executive, and judicial policy roles and processes
3. Understands how interests are communicated and acted upon in the policy process
4. Understands how the power of individuals and of coalitions influences the policy process
5. Knows the key state policy players (individuals as well as organizations) and understands their role in the policy process
6. Evaluates the role of policy in sustaining or eliminating systemic barriers to opportunity

Leadership

Goal Statement: Fellows develop and expand the knowledge, skills, and practices of leaders able to effect positive change.

Leadership Competencies: By the completion of the Fellowship experience, each Fellow...

1. Understands types of leadership and the characteristics of courageous, collaborative, and effective leaders
2. Gains an awareness of their own leadership style, strengths, and areas for further development
3. Adopt ethical and effective leadership practices

Networking

Goal statement: Fellows develop relationships with diverse colleagues and expand their ability to collaborate with other individuals and organizations.

Networking Competencies: By the completion of the Fellowship experience, each Fellow...

1. Builds a larger network of cross-boundary professional colleagues and organizational contacts
2. Can identify interests aligned for, against, and neutral on issues of concern, listen to different perspectives, and search for common ground
3. Develops a practical framework of personal power and influence that guides behavior in a work setting, including a focus on self-reflection and developing communication/interaction skills for different audiences
4. Understands the power of networks to bring about change and works to remove barriers that prevent full participation

¹ Revised by EPFP coordinators in Spring 2019.