



The New Jersey Teacher Leader Policy Fellowship is an opportunity for New Jersey teacher leaders (Fellows) to learn about and engage in education policy and advocacy in New Jersey.

## The Program

New Jersey Teacher Leader Policy Fellowship participants (Fellows) engage in a year-long Fellowship to study the NJ education policy landscape, hone their advocacy skills, and achieve a short-term advocacy goal.

In addition to engaging in high-quality professional learning and networking opportunities, **Fellows receive a \$2,000 stipend** for their commitment to this work.

## What to Expect

Convenings are rich with current research, expert discussions, and exploratory activities designed to expand participants' knowledge and understanding of the current NJ education policy landscape, as well as support them in taking action in advocating at the state or local level.

Throughout the course of the Fellowship, the Fellows:

- Research a current key priority area\* and identify a problem to solve within their selected area;
- Learn the advocacy process and establish a goal and key strategies in their identified focus area;
- Work with a small cohort of Fellows to achieve a short-term milestone; and
- Increase their professional network and opportunities to be advocates.

## Convenings

Fellows meet in a variety of formats throughout the year. All meetings take place outside of school hours. See the [NJ Teacher Leader Policy Fellowship webpage](#) for a complete list of convening dates and times.

\*This year's topics are: *Teacher Diversity, Education Innovation, Safe and Secure Learning Facilities*

## Our Why

*We are passionate about this work because we believe that:*

1. Practicing classroom teachers are a critical stakeholder in advising and influencing the mission and vision of education organizations.
2. Practicing teachers must be informed and knowledgeable about education systems and policies in order to actively and effectively engage in advocacy to benefit student outcomes.
3. Teacher leadership, or the ability for teachers to influence colleagues and the profession while maintaining classroom responsibilities, will keep great teachers in classrooms where they can have the biggest impact on student outcomes. Teacher leadership also allows practicing teachers to meaningfully contribute to the development and implementation of education policy.



## To Apply

To apply for this Fellowship, participants must:

- Be open to [JerseyCAN's mission and vision](#);
- Have a minimum of two years of experience teaching in New Jersey's schools; and
- Commit to attending all meetings and convenings and completing any associated readings or activities for the convenings

If you meet all of these qualifications and are a New Jersey teacher who is interested in learning about and engaging in policy and advocacy, visit the [NJ Teacher Leader Policy Fellowship webpage](#) for details on how to apply.

## About JerseyCAN

[JerseyCAN](#) is a nonprofit organization that advocates for high-quality educational opportunities for all New Jersey students, regardless of their address. JerseyCAN works in partnership with education leaders, parents, students and other stakeholders from across the state to remove policy barriers and create new proactive policy measures. JerseyCAN has secured key policy wins that have advanced its mission including more equitable school funding, growth in the number of high-quality new schools in our state—particularly in Newark and Camden—and high standards and aligned assessments. Part of JerseyCAN's strength as a leader and convener in the education landscape is because of the leadership of our 11-member advisory board; since its inception in 2013, the JerseyCAN board has been co-chaired by former New Jersey Governor Tom Kean and Ann Borowiec, former CEO, J.P. Morgan Private Banking.

For more information, contact: [njtlf@jerseycan.org](mailto:njtlf@jerseycan.org)

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