

1. Are teachers required to be nominated to apply for the Texas Education Agency (TEA) Teacher Leadership Fellowship?

The Teacher Leadership Fellowship nomination process is a way for stakeholders across Texas to help spread the word about the new Teacher Leadership Fellowship. Nominated teachers will receive communications from the TEA Teacher Leadership Fellowship team to apply. Teachers are not required to be nominated to apply.

2. Who is eligible for the TEA Teacher Leadership Fellowship?

The TEA Teacher Leadership Fellowship is for any teacher in the state of Texas that is fully certified with a minimum of 2 years of teaching experience. To be considered, the fellows should spend most of their workday working with students in a Texas public school. In addition to core content teachers, this includes Special Education teachers, PK teachers, elective teachers, and interventionists. This does not include instructional coaches, assistant principals, or principals.

3. What is the time commitment, and will fellows be expected to travel?

Fellows will be expected to attend a 2-3 hour virtual session once a month and can anticipate 1-2 hours of pre-work and post-work between meetings. Since all meetings will be held virtually, no travel will be required of fellows.

4. Will fellows receive compensation for their participation in the TEA Teacher Leadership Fellowship?

We are currently exploring a \$1500 stipend for all fellows and will ensure that information is communicated to potential fellows by May 15th.

5. What would I do as a Leadership Fellow?

Fellows will meet virtually once a month to engage with peer educators, TEA leaders, and research experts. Through these meetings, fellows will gain knowledge of education policy and programs across the state. Then, through collaboration with colleagues, fellows will develop ideas and action steps to then provide feedback on TEA strategic initiatives. Possible areas of focus include teacher workforce opportunities and challenges, including policies and programs to increase teacher retention, expand teacher pathways, and strengthen educator preparation.

6. What is included in the Leadership Fellowship?

- Selective 12-month commitment, starting in June 2023, with the opportunity to extend for a second year.
- Monthly virtual sessions with learning modules, guest speakers, and working groups centered on topics to provide feedback to TEA on.
- Connections with stakeholders and leaders across Texas.

7. How does this fellowship differ from other teacher leadership opportunities with TEA (Teacher Leadership Grant, Texas Instructional Leadership)?

The Teacher Leadership Fellowship is focused on developing teacher leaders at the state-level. Teacher candidates apply directly to TEA for this opportunity, and selected fellows will work directly with TEA leadership on statewide strategic initiatives. Other teacher leadership grants, administered by the agency, are awarded to school district applicants who intend to build campus- and district-based teacher leadership models (e.g., National Board Candidacy Cohorts, distributed leadership models at the campus level, etc.).