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| Text  Description automatically generated MASSACHUSETTS EDUCATION POLICY FELLOWSHIP (MEPF) APPLICATION **Please return a copy with a sponsor’s signature by mail or e-mail to:**   |  | | --- | | Laura Cinelli  Rennie Center for Education Research & Policy  45 Temple Place  Boston, MA 02111  [lcinelli@renniecenter.org](mailto:lcinelli@renniecenter.org) |   Applications for the 2023-24 program will be accepted on a rolling basis through  June 16, 2023. Interested applicants are encouraged to submit applications as  early as possible.    MEPF is a program of: |

**MASSACHUSETTS EDUCATION POLICY FELLOWSHIP (MEPF)**

**APPLICATION**

We are pleased you are considering the Massachusetts Education Policy Fellowship (MEPF). MEPF is a professional development program that brings together a diverse group of individuals from across the education landscape to understand the policy process and advance a more equitable education system. Most participants in MEPF hold full-time positions in organizations working in education and related fields and are supported by their employing agencies, although some fellows choose to seek external sources of sponsorship or pay for their own participation.

**THE FELLOWSHIP**

Fellows remain in their full-time positions and use their work environment as the context for examining important leadership and policy issues in their states and in the nation. MEPF activities are directed by on-site Coordinators.

MEPF brings Fellows together through a variety of on-site and virtual learning opportunities (including speakers and panel discussions, debriefs, workshops, and individual or group projects) and through electronic networking and information sharing. The program includes visits to the State House and to Washington, D.C., with opportunities during both of those trips to connect with each other and with individuals working in policy roles.

Participation in MEPF begins with building a deeper appreciation of each Fellow’s leadership strengths and skills in order to better understand how identity and leadership style influences approaches to policy. In the second phase of the program, Fellows have the chance to dig into the meaning of policy and how past and current policies have shaped the education system. In the third phase of the program, Fellows identify opportunities for improving the education system through policy, both as individual actors and as part of broader coalitions seeking change.

Throughout the program, Fellows have opportunities to:

(1) develop a broadened understanding of the policy process;

(2) hone their communications and decision-making skills;

(3) refine their potential for leadership; and

(4) expand their network of professional colleagues.

As a result, employing agencies are rewarded with better-informed and more skillful employees.

**PROGRAM FEES** **AND EMPLOYER SPONSORSHIP**

In general, each person’s employing agency–the sponsor–pays the base program fee of $2,900, travel costs to regional and national meetings, and any special site-specific programming fees. In addition, the employer provides release time for on-site and national activities. Fellows are not required to have a sponsoring employer, although most do.

Fee waivers may be available in select cases. Please contact Laura Cinelli for more information.

**ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION PROCESS**

MEPF invites your application if you have:

• a commitment to personal and professional development on behalf of children and youth;

• a track record for making things happen inside and across agencies/organizations;

• substantive work experience; and

• a bachelor's degree or its equivalent.

Most fellows (though not all) also have:

• a full-time professional position; and

• endorsement and financial support from an employer.

MEPF requires participation in training activities that are generally, but not always, held at the conclusion of the normal work day. In addition, Fellows are expected to attend a conference in Washington, DC, an opening retreat, and a two-day Civil Rights Tour. Please consider these extra demands on your time in light of your current professional and personal schedule. If you cannot participate fully in MEPF, please do not complete the application.

**APPLICATION AND SELECTION SCHEDULE**

April MEPF application materials distributed

May – June Applications returned to MEPF Coordinators

June – July Fellows notified of acceptance

August Fellowship begins

Final selection of Fellows is made by MEPF Coordinators in consultation with the applicant’s sponsor.

For any questions related to the Massachusetts Education Policy Fellowship or this application please contact Laura Cinelli at 617-354-0002 (x1) or [lcinelli@renniecenter.org](mailto:lcinelli@renniecenter.org).

**RENNIE CENTER FOR EDUCATION RESEARCH & POLICY**

45 Temple Place **•** Boston, MA 02111

(617) 354-0002 **•** www.renniecenter.org

**MASSACHUSETTS EDUCATION POLICY FELLOWSHIP**

***APPLICATION***

## BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

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| NAME (plus any nicknames)  JOB TITLE  ORGANIZATION  WORK ADDRESS line 1  WORK ADDRESS line 2  WORK PHONE (area code + number)  WORK EMAIL ADDRESS  PERSONAL EMAIL ADDRESS  PREFERRED EMAIL ADDRESS (personal/work)  (This should be an address you check often)  CELL PHONE (area code + number)  BIRTH DATE (MM/DD/YY) |

**OPTIONAL INFORMATION**

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| RACE/ETHNICITY  GENDER       / PREFERRED PRONOUNS  HOW DID YOU LEARN ABOUT MEPF?  ACCOMMODATION REQUESTS (IF ANY) |

**EDUCATION (Please cite most recent institution first)**

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| UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE | CITY, STATE | MAJOR FIELD | DEGREE | YEAR |
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**RECENT EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE (Please list current position first)**Please do not substitute your resume for this section

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**MEPF OUTCOMES**

Please provide narrative responses of one page or less to each of the following questions focused on the personal and professional outcomes of MEPF. These responses are intended to provide a snapshot of your intentions regarding the program. We estimate that it will take no more than an hour to put together a response.

1. To enhance your capacity as a leader, what are your three learning priorities for this fellowship?

2. How would your participation in MEPF benefit you, your organization, and those that your organization serves?

**MASSACHUSETTS EDUCATION POLICY FELLOWSHIP**

***2023-2024 APPLICATION***

***This page must be completed and signed, and the entire application mailed or emailed, for your application to be considered. If you do not have an employer sponsor, or if your employer will not be covering the full fellowship fee, please contact Laura Cinelli at*** [***lcinelli@renniecenter.org***](mailto:lcinelli@renniecenter.org)

***or (617) 354-0002 (x1) for an alternate endorsement form.***

**ENDORSEMENT: TO THE SUPERVISOR/EMPLOYING AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE**

The Massachusetts Education Policy Fellowship (MEPF) is a ten-month professional development program for individuals who seek to enhance their knowledge and develop their skills in education policy. The program year begins in August with a retreat in Ashland, Massachusetts. Fellows meet twice each month on Tuesday evenings from September through June. Meetings include guest speakers and discussion among Fellows on topics related to leadership and education policy. Fellows also participate in a two-day tour focused on Massachusetts civil rights history, a full-day State House session, and a visit to Washington, D.C. that gives Fellows a chance to explore the impact of national policy on their work.

The $2,900 MEPF program fee plus travel-related costs for regional and national meetings are paid by the employing agency and/or the Fellow. Your signature ensures (1) your employee's release time for full participation in the program and (2) payment of program-related costs. If you have any questions, please contact the Massachusetts Education Policy Fellowship Coordinator, Laura Cinelli, at lcinelli@renniecenter.org or (617) 354-0002 (x1).

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| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Name of Applicant (PRINT) | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Applicant's Signature |

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Supervisor's Title \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Organization \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_