

2015-16 Press Kit



About Us

In the spring of 2000, the NYC Teaching Fellows program was launched to address the most severe teacher shortage in the New York City public school system in decades. An initiative of the NYC Department of Education, the Fellowship recruits and selects successful professionals and recent graduates from across the country and prepares them to raise student achievement in New York City.

Over the past fifteen years, the Fellowship **has drawn over 200,000 applications** and provided the nation's largest school system with **over 18,000 talented new teachers**. As an alternative route to teaching certification, the NYC Teaching Fellows program is designed to fast-track talented individuals with no prior teaching experience into full-time teaching positions in New York City public schools by providing the necessary training, coursework, and resources needed to drive students' academic achievement.

Since its inception, the NYC Teaching Fellows program has grown into the country's largest, most selective program of its kind, alleviating chronic teacher shortages in high-poverty communities and in critical high-need subject areas such as special education, science, mathematics, bilingual education, English, Spanish, English as a Second Language, elementary education, social studies and music.

Program Overview

Our mission is to recruit and prepare high-quality, dedicated individuals to become teachers who raise student achievement in the **New York City classrooms that need them most**. We value individuals from a broad range of personal and professional backgrounds who are passionate about making a lasting impact in New York City public schools.

The NYC Teaching Fellows program is designed specifically to provide Fellows with the training, support, and resources needed to raise student achievement in New York City public schools. Rather than complete a traditional teacher education program prior to entering the classroom, all NYC Teaching Fellows complete an **intensive pre-service training program**, including a hands-on teaching experience in a New York City classroom, that prepares them to be successful in their first year of teaching and beyond.

Fellows then continue their education through a **subsidized master's degree** program while teaching at a New York City public school. Upon entering the classroom as a full-time teacher, Fellows are certified to teach in New York City under the Transitional B certification.

Most Teaching Fellows teach **in the Bronx and Brooklyn**. While the Fellowship helps to facilitate the job search process, each Fellow is ultimately responsible for securing his/her own position. This allows the principal and the Fellow to find the best possible match.

After securing a full-time teaching position, Teaching Fellows enjoy the same rights, responsibilities, and compensation of all New York City teachers, including a competitive salary and benefits and ongoing professional development at the school-level.

Our Growth

In its first year, the NYC Teaching Fellows program drew 2,100 applications for 325 available positions. Among that first group of Fellows were a Viacom vice-president, one of Mayor Rudy Giuliani's speechwriters, a "Dateline NBC" producer, and a technology executive from Chicago with both a JD and an MBA. The quality of the **applicant pool was so exceptional** that the Fellowship has expanded to cohorts of nearly 2,000 Fellows in some years.

- Today, the NYC Teaching Fellows program is the **largest alternative certification program in the country** and among the most selective.
- Over **9,000 Fellows** are currently teaching in **88 percent of New York City's approximately 1,700 public schools and programs**.
- Fellows are making a long-term, positive impact in New York City schools—**91 percent of all Fellows who begin teaching complete the first year**, 77 percent of Fellows are still teaching in their third year, and over half will teach at least five years.
- **More than 400 Fellows** have gone on to become principals, administrators, and school founders in New York City.

Our Impact

- Ratio of New York City teachers who are Fellows: 12%
- Percent of New York City's math teachers who are Fellows: 24%
- Percent of New York City's special education teachers who are Fellows: 22%
- Percent of New York City's science teachers who are Fellows: 20%

Selectivity

- Average undergraduate GPA of 2015 Fellows: 3.24
- Percent of 2015 Fellows who have completed graduate-level degrees: 16%

Retention

- Percent of all Fellows who complete the first year: 91%
- Percent of Fellows who are still teaching in their third year: 77%

Diversity

Our commitment to recruiting a diverse teaching force has produced noticeable results: 56% of the latest cohort of Fellows self-identify as people of color and 49% self-identify as black or Latino, compared to 12 percent of all teachers nationwide.

Sources: NYCTF database (June 2015) and/or NYC Department of Education (2015).

NYC Teaching Fellows

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