FACT SHEET
The 2021 Woodrow Wilson Pennsylvania Teaching Fellows

About the 2021 Fellows

• In 2021, the Institute for Citizens & Scholars has named 40 Woodrow Wilson (WW) Pennsylvania Teaching Fellows. They will attend Duquesne University, West Chester University, and the University of Pennsylvania.
• Of these new WW Pennsylvania Teaching Fellows:
  o 88% majored in a STEM discipline
  o 26 Fellows majored in a science field, one in an engineering field, and eight in a mathematics field.
  o Three Fellows have completed advanced degree work.
  o Among them they hold three master’s degree
  o Many Fellows hold active memberships and leadership roles in various academic honoraries and societies.
  o Fellows were leaders on their university campuses. Fellows served as officers of clubs and activity groups, worked as teaching assistants and graders, and conducted graduate and undergraduate research.
• 35% of the Fellows are teacher candidates of color, versus 18% in the overall teaching force.
• 35% of the Fellows are male—noteworthy in a profession where as many as three-quarters of practitioners are female.
• The Fellows bring a wide range of life experiences to their work:
  o Twenty-nine of the Fellows completed their bachelor’s degrees in the past three years. A number of the undergraduate Fellows served in roles such as teaching assistants, youth camp counselors, researchers, and tutors.
  o Eleven of the Fellows are considered career changers. These Fellows have worked as a conservation manager, a dance teacher, a civil engineer, a sales and marketing commercial leader, a robotics teacher and curriculum developer, a lab assistant and assistant/substitute teacher, a substitute teacher, a teaching assistant and substitute teacher, and three teachers.
  o Fellows remain deeply committed to community service. Most participate in volunteer work, some with organizations such as the American Red Cross of New Jersey, others with local non-profits and religious institutions, and some through tutoring youth in their community.

About the Fellowship

• The goals of the Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellowship are to:
  o Attract the very best candidates to teaching
  o Put strong teachers into high-need schools
  o Cut teacher attrition and retain top teachers
  o Transform university-based teacher education
• The Fellowships recruit teachers—both recent college graduates and career changers—with strong backgrounds in the STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics).
• Each Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellow receives a $32,000 Fellowship to complete a specially designed, cutting-edge master’s degree program, as preparation to teach in high-need urban or rural secondary schools.
• Fellows commit to teach for three years, with ongoing mentoring.
• Universities agree to redesign their teacher education programs.
• Pennsylvania launched its Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellowship in 2018. The 2021 class of Fellows is the third class to be named in PA.
• Past states to have programs included Georgia, Indiana, Michigan, New Jersey, and Ohio.