

Pennsylvania Fellowship Program for Special Education Leaders

Welcoming Cohort 12 Applicants
2021-2022

PaTTAN Leadership Initiative Achieving Balance:



Pennsylvania Fellowship Program for Special Education Leaders

The Pennsylvania Fellowship Program (PFP) for Special Education Leaders strives to develop the knowledge and skills of veteran and novice special education administrators. Fellows will be engaged in customized networking opportunities to build capacity and promote effective programming to ensure success for all students with disabilities.

This program is designed specifically for special education leaders. A special education leader is defined as someone who has primary responsibility for the oversight of special education supports, programs and services within a local education agency regardless of the title the leader currently holds. Special education leaders have many different titles within Pennsylvania local educational agencies. This may include special education director, special education supervisor, special education coordinator, and director of pupil services.

The goals of the PFP for Special Education Leaders are to:

- Increase the skills and understanding of legal issues and reporting procedures required in special education
- Build and support a cadre of special education leaders who can achieve improved results for students with disabilities
- Strengthen the capacity of special education leaders to serve students with disabilities
- Develop a culture of learning and teaching in schools to support students with disabilities
- Promote collegial discussions and networking opportunities

General Information

- The PFP is grounded in the principles of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) and the Council for Administrators of Special Education (CASE) and is aligned with the Pennsylvania Inspired Leadership (PIL) standards.
- The PFP is a competitive process with limited capacity. Participants vary in both years of experience and LEA type and are an equitable representation of novice and veteran administrators from across the Commonwealth.
- There is a registration fee of \$415. Participants will be responsible for travel costs.

How is the Pennsylvania Fellowship Program for Special Education Leaders different from other professional development programs?

- PFP Fellows will have the opportunity to form relationships with key staff members of the Pennsylvania State System of Support, PDE, BSE, and the Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN).
- The focus is on providing practical and applicable information for participants to implement.
- The series of professional development opportunities will focus on the connections between CEC - CASE principles, special education law, and collegial learning.

What is my commitment if I am accepted as a PFP Special Education Fellow?

Each PFP Fellow must commit to the following:

- **Consistent attendance for the duration of all professional development sessions as outlined on page 5 of the application.**
- Attend the PA Department of Education Conference March 2 – March 4, 2022.
- Attend The Special Education Leadership Academy in Summer of 2022.
- Develop and present a culminating project based on student or programmatic data that illustrates one or more systemic impact(s) for students with disabilities over time. Projects will be presented at The 2022 Special Education Leadership Academy.

Once selected, it is imperative that the PFP Fellow honors the commitment that they have made to this series in order to receive act 48 hours and be recognized as a graduate of Cohort 12.

How will my LEA benefit from my participation in the PFP?

Your LEA will acquire a special education leader who will:

- Develop and implement quality programs that improve the achievement of students with disabilities.
- Balance compliance and lead improvement while working within the standards and policies of the profession.
- Be part of an expanded network of practicing special education leaders working toward advancing their knowledge and skills.

What is my employer's contribution in support of my participation in the PFP?

Your employer's contribution is:

- Payment of the registration fee of \$415. The registration fee covers the cost of meals and registration fees for the PA Department of Education Conference (March 2-4, 2022) and The Special Education Leadership Academy (Summer, 2022).
- Provide release time for participation in all professional development sessions and conferences as related to the PFP.
- Any travel expenses, including, if applicable, hotel accommodations associated with the PDE conference, the April and/or May professional development sessions, and/or The 2022 Special Education Leadership Academy.

Does participation in the PFP qualify for Act 48?

Yes, a total of 39 act 48 hours will be awarded at the end of the series for Fellows that complete all commitments.

*** Should the 21-22 Pennsylvania Fellowship Program be affected by unforeseen events, program adjustments may be necessary. We appreciate your flexibility.**

Requirements/Eligibility:

The Pennsylvania Fellowship Program for Special Education Leaders is a comprehensive program that provides a continuum of professional development. This training series will result in the development of a systematic view of special education while also building the leadership capacity of the participant.

You are invited to apply if you have:

- A current full-time professional special education administrative position
- The endorsement of your LEA/Charter executive
- A commitment to discover your own personal and professional potential
- A commitment to foster growth and achievement for students with disabilities
- An interest in building a community of practice comprised of other special education leaders

How Do I Apply?

All applications must be submitted by August 18, 2021.

- ✓ Complete Application
<https://forms.gle/NVQccLU2yvkaYQYA>
- ✓ Upload Resume as part of the application
- ✓ Forward Assurance link for electronic signature of LEA/Charter
<https://forms.gle/jCUYyxayRZg46LM3A>

Application Information

Application : <https://forms.gle/NVQccLU2yvkaYQYA>

Assurance : <https://forms.gle/jCUYyxayRZg46LM3A>

All applicants will be notified of their status by September 6, 2021.

Please direct your questions to:

Tracy Ficca
tficca@pattan.net

Nichole Kopco
nkopco@pattan.net

Pennsylvania Fellowship Program for Special Education Leaders 2021-2022 Calendar

DATE - LOCATION	TIME	SEMINAR TOPICS
September 29, 2021 <i>Virtual</i>	1:00 PM to 4:15 PM	Introduction to Building Your Program Landscape as a Special Education Leader
September 30, 2021 <i>Virtual</i>	8:30 AM to 11:45 AM	Refining Your Infrastructure While Building Your Skill Set Around the Cyclical Monitoring Process
October 27, 2021 <i>Virtual</i>	1:00 PM to 4:15 PM	Managing Complex Change While Presuming Competence
October 28, 2021 <i>Virtual</i>	8:30 AM to 11:45 AM	Ensuring the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) Through Equitable Practices
December 15, 2021 <i>Virtual</i>	1:00 PM to 4:15 PM	Engaging Families to Ensure Ongoing Effective Supports and Transitions
December 16, 2021 <i>Virtual</i>	8:30 AM to 11:45 AM	Coordinating Successful IEP Processes and Procedures
January 13, 2022 <i>Virtual</i>	8:30 AM to 11:45 AM	Building Collaborative Team Structures and Shared Responsibility
March 1, 2022 <i>In Person at Hershey Lodge (prior to PDE Conference)</i>	1:00 PM to 4:15 PM	Pennsylvania Resources from Compliance to Best Practice
March 2, 2022 <i>In Person at Hershey Lodge (prior to PDE Conference)</i>	8:15 AM – 11:30 AM	Capitalizing on Student Supports and Resources
March 2-4, 2022 <i>In Person at Hershey Lodge</i>	TBA	Pennsylvania Department of Education Annual Conference: Making a Difference; Educational Practices That Work
April 13, 2022 <i>In Person at PaTTAN East and PaTTAN Pittsburgh</i>	9:00 AM to 3:30 PM	Programmatic Input for Students with Low Incidence Disabilities
May 16, 2022 <i>In Person at Hershey Lodge</i>	10:30 AM to 5:00 PM	Design and Delivery of Effective Academic Programming
May 17, 2022 <i>In Person at Hershey Lodge</i>	8:30 AM to 3:00 PM	Design and Delivery of Effective Behavioral Programming
Summer 2022 <i>In Person, Location to be determined</i>	TBA	The 2022 Special Education Leadership Academy