

Pennsylvania Fellowship Program for Special Education Leaders

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF
SPECIAL EDUCATION
LEADERSHIP IN PENNSYLVANIA

Achieving Balance: Managing Compliance, Leading Improvement



**Pennsylvania Fellowship Program
(PFP)**

Pennsylvania Fellowship Program for Special Education Leaders

The Pennsylvania Fellowship Program for Special Education Leaders strives to build capacity through increasing the knowledge and skills of veteran and novice Special Education Administrators to direct effective programming that will ensure success for all students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs).

This Fellowship defines a special education leader as an individual who is responsible for the oversight and monitoring of special education programs, teachers, and services within the LEA. Positions may include titles such as special education director, special education supervisor/coordinator, pupil services director, student services director/coordinator, etc.

The goals of the Pennsylvania Fellowship Program 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 Pennsylvania Fellowship Program (PFP) for Special Education Leaders is a professional development program for novice and veteran administrators who want to improve their skills as special education leaders.
- Individuals accepted into this program will learn practical ways to improve outcomes for students with disabilities in addition to improving their LEA's ability to be compliant with state and federal regulations.
- PFP Special Education Leaders will have numerous opportunities to develop a network of collaborative relationships with professionals in similar positions from across the state as various topics related to special education are discussed.
- 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.
- Due to the generous support of the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) and Bureau of Special Education (BSE), the registration fee is \$525. *Travel costs associated with this program are the responsibility of the participants.*
- The PFP is limited to 75 participants selected from across the Commonwealth with equitable representation of novice and veteran administrators.

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, to include stakeholders from the PDE, the BSE, and the Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN).
- The focus is on providing practical and applicable information for participants to implement.
- This 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:

- Attend the mandatory September and May training dates.
- Participation in the PFP requires consistent attendance; therefore, participants may miss up to a maximum of two sessions over the course of the PFP.
- Attend the Special Education Leadership Academy 2020.
- Develop and complete a project based on student or programmatic data that illustrates one or more concrete and permanent improvement(s) for students with disabilities.

Once selected, it is imperative that the PFP Fellow honors the commitment that s/he has made.

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 improves 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 threefold:

- The registration fee of \$525 covers the cost of resources/materials, lunches, registration fees for both the PDE Conference and the Special Education Leadership Academy.
- Provide release time for participation in all professional development sessions and conferences as related to the PFP.
- Reimbursement for any travel expenses

Does participation in the PFP qualify for Act 48?

Act 48 hours are awarded for each full day. The total hours available to earn for the entire series is 43.

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 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?

Complete the application on the following page. All applications must be submitted by August 2, 2019. Please send the completed application form and a current résumé to:

Paula Quinn
PaTTAN Pittsburgh
3190 William Pitt Way
Pittsburgh, PA 15238
pquinn@pattan.net

All accepted Fellows will be notified via email by Friday, August 16, 2019

Please direct your questions to:

Christine Moon
Western Region
cmoon@pattan.net

Nichole Kopco
Central Region
nkopco@pattan.net

Tracy Ficca
Eastern Region
tficca@pattan.net

**Pennsylvania Fellowship Program for Special Education Leaders
2019 - 2020 Application**

Name _____ IU _____
Local education agency (LEA/Charter) _____
Address _____
Phone _____
Email _____
Professional Title _____
Number of years as a **special education** administrator: _____
I have applied previously to the PFP: NO _____ YES _____ In the year _____

All applications must be submitted by August 2, 2019. Please send your completed application and a current résumé to:

Paula Quinn
PaTTAN Pittsburgh
3190 William Pitt Way
Pittsburgh, PA 15238
pquinn@pattan.net
Or FAX: 412-826-1964

All accepted PFP Special Education Leaders will be notified by August 16, 2019.

Endorsement of the Superintendent/Employer Representative

Fellows in the PFP program are expected to participate fully in this year-long professional development program. Travel-related costs are paid for by the employer or the accepted Fellow. Your signature affirms your employee's release time for full participation. If you have any questions, please contact your regional PaTTAN Consultant.

I am aware that being a PFP Special Education Fellow will require a commitment of time. I support this applicant's involvement and believe s/he will be an asset to the program.

Name _____ Phone _____
Email _____
Signature _____

Pennsylvania Fellowship Program for Special Education Leaders 2019-2020 Calendar

DATE - LOCATION	PROJECTED TOPICS
September 18, 2019 <i>Harrisburg/Hershey</i> <i>Attendance is mandatory</i>	Setting the Stage
September 19, 2019 <i>Harrisburg/Hershey</i> <i>Attendance is mandatory</i>	Using the Law to Improve Special Education Practices
October 30, 2019 <i>PaTTAN Pittsburgh/PaTTAN East</i>	Least Restrictive Environment
December 11, 2019 <i>Harrisburg/Hershey</i>	Successful IEP Process
December 12, 2019 <i>Harrisburg/Hershey</i>	Mediation and/or Due Process
January 10, 2020 <i>Virtual</i>	Pennsylvania Resources
February 5, 2020 <i>PaTTAN Pittsburgh/PaTTAN East</i>	Current Issues in Special Education
March 9 – 11, 2020 <i>Hershey Lodge</i>	Pennsylvania Department of Education Annual Conference
May 13, 2020 <i>Harrisburg/Hershey</i> <i>Attendance is mandatory</i>	Students with Low Incidence Disabilities
May 14, 2020 <i>Harrisburg/Hershey</i> <i>Attendance is mandatory</i>	Special Education Practices
Spring/Summer 2020 <i>TBD</i>	Special Education Leadership Academy