

TED Policy Fellows

The TED Policy Workgroup seeks motivated, policy-oriented doctoral students interested in learning more about advocacy, policy development, and implications for research in special education and teacher preparation. This highly individualized, student-led experience can be tailored to the doctoral student's interests and talents, providing opportunities for collaborating with members of the TED Policy Workgroup, assisting with social media campaigns, creating content for Advocacy Briefs and Congressional staff members, working on policy analyses, and contributing to the preparation for the Special Education Legislative Summit (SELS) in July. A maximum of five TED Policy Fellows will be selected by the TED Policy Workgroup each year.

Purpose:

- Assist with goals and objectives of TED's strategic plan focused on advocacy and policy initiatives related to teacher education and special education (<https://tedcec.org/about/strategic-plan>),
- Develop interest among doctoral students in policy and advocacy-relevant work, and
- Highlight doctoral students committed to engaging in policy work that elevates teacher preparation at a national level.

Benefits:

- Potential for mentorship and assistance with policy and advocacy-relevant goals;
- Collaborate with TED Policy Workgroup members representing numerous universities; and
- Travel stipend (up to \$1,000) to represent TED at the Special Education Legislative Summit (SELS) in Washington D.C., providing opportunities for networking with faculty members, administrators, and practitioners from across the country.

TED Policy Fellows apply for the experience in May, with terms running from August 1 through July 30. Fellows should expect to attend monthly TED Policy Workgroup meetings, the monthly virtual Washington Update, and any relevant sub-group meetings as assigned (all via Zoom). In addition, Fellows should plan to participate in face-to-face Policy Committee meetings at the TED and CEC conferences, if able to attend (no additional support provided). As a culminating activity, TED Fellows will be provided with a travel stipend of \$1,000 to attend the CEC Special Education Legislative Summit, held annually in July in Washington, DC.

Throughout their term, Fellows will collaborate regularly with the TED Policy Chair and TED Policy Advisor to work toward the completion of an identified, self-led deliverable(s) they believe would be strengthened by this experience. This may include a policy-relevant manuscript, a conference presentation, an Advocacy/Policy Brief, a course syllabus or presentation materials, etc. Additionally, of specific interest would be doctoral students interested in developing research briefs that could be shared with Congressional staff members based on emerging research in their institution or from their area of research interest. The TED Board Member at Large for Political Action (aka, Policy Chair) will serve as the supervisor of the experience.

To apply, doctoral students or candidates will submit a short (500-word limit) description of how they see policy and advocacy aligned to their emerging research interests and the activities they would be interested in engaging in with the TED Policy Workgroup. In addition, they should include details about a proposed self-led project (500-word limit) they plan to complete while serving as a fellow, explaining how the project will benefit from their experience as a fellow.

Application Process:

- Upload materials to Google form no later than midnight EST May 1, including:
 - Description of Engagement Activities and Deliverable (500-word limit)
 - Current CV
 - Letter of support from doctoral advisors (advisors are not required to be TED members)