



## Bridge Fellowship 2023-24 - Principal Approval Form

Dear Principal,

You are receiving this form because your staff member is applying to become a Bridge Fellow. The Bridge Fellowship is a paid fellowship for persons of color or women who are preferably serving as an assistant principal or in another school leadership position in the state of Illinois. The program is designed for individuals who already have a principal endorsement on their license, have been in their school leadership role for at least one year, and want to become a principal. The Bridge Project is supported by Illinois Lead Hubs and WestEd through a grant from the US Department of Education.

Fellows will voluntarily engage in job-embedded and after-hours professional learning experiences, which includes:

- Guidance and tools that enable them to lead a team of teachers through a learning cycle focused on ELA or Math and to complete a project aimed at developing students' social emotional learning skills;
- Coaching support to help them lead teacher teams effectively;
- Professional networking opportunities to build resumes and interviewing skills.

As principal, your support is essential to Bridge Fellow's success in the professional development program. The Bridge Fellows will need to:

- Have autonomy and time to lead a teacher team through a learning cycle focused on ELA and Math;
- Consultation with you, to ensure that the teacher team is meeting school goals and benchmarks;
- Have time to meet with Bridge coaches—all of whom are former school administrators—in school;
- Participate with you and the teacher team in a research study, which requires one survey and one interview.

Principals of fellows will also be invited to participate in a professional learning community of principals, during which they will share lessons learned and access additional resources related to building leadership capacity of staff. Additional information about the Bridge Fellowship, including FAQs, can be found [here](#). Job-embedded practice is a critical component of the fellowship, so we are asking applicants

to demonstrate they have permission and authority to carry out the projects that will be assigned to them. Please complete this form by initializing each statement and signing your name. Please return the completed form to the applicant to upload with their application.

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Position in SY22-23: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Position in SY23-24: \_\_\_\_\_

If the applicant is chosen as a Fellow,

\_\_\_\_\_ I attest that the Fellow will have permission and authority to lead a team of teachers in a Learning Cycle focused on ELA or Math. They will be able to dedicate a total of 2 hours of agenda time per month to leading meetings with the teacher team. (For example, 30 minutes during 4 different meetings). During this time, they will use data to identify a problem with student learning, identify a responsive instructional strategy, and monitor results to inform improvement.

\_\_\_\_\_ I attest that the Fellow will have permission to implement a social-emotional learning project that involves diagnosing needs and implementing strategies to improve student's SEL skills.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to meet with the Fellow's coach at least 30 minutes once a month to provide input on how to tailor assignments to the needs of my school.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that I will be invited to participate in a professional learning community with other principals, including an in-person kick-off on June 13, 2023, in Bloomington, IL.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to participate in a research study and provide teachers time to complete one survey and one interview in 2023-24 academic year.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_