



The Martinez Fellowship Program

Overview & Application 2018-2019

Program overview

The Martinez Fellowship is a program established in 2008 by Holli and Edgar Martinez and is managed by the Technology Access Foundation (TAF). The fellowship's purpose is to impact Washington's achievement gap by improving teacher diversity and retaining teachers of color through graduate level scholarships, early career coaching, and ongoing professional development.

There are currently over 130 Martinez Fellows currently working in 38 school districts across Washington, positively influencing more than 11,000 students in some of the state's most diverse and high-needs schools. TAF is committed to improving teacher diversity and retaining teachers of color in their profession. TAF provides Fellows with networking and collaboration opportunities with other teachers of color in a trusted community, and through high-quality professional development programs designed to complement their university instruction and other district or state supports.

Martinez Fellows are exceptional teachers and education leaders, committed to the highest standards of excellence in social justice education in their profession. Fellows are dedicated to seeing every student in their classrooms succeed and are eager to engage in pursuing personal and professional excellence within an ongoing collaborative learning community with other Fellows. Martinez Fellows are united in a shared passion for teaching through a multicultural lens and dedicated to eliminating the achievement/opportunity gap in Washington state's most underserved schools.

The Martinez Fellowship program offers:

- Graduate level scholarships toward Masters in Teaching (certification) degrees at one of our partner universities
 - University of Washington, Seattle: Master in Teaching, Elementary Teacher Education Program and Master in Teaching, Secondary Teacher Education Program
 - University of Washington, Bothell: Secondary and Middle Level Teacher Certification M.Ed.
 - Seattle University: Master in Teaching Program (both fall and spring start)
 - Western Washington University: Master in Teaching Program (both fall and winter start)
 - Seattle Pacific University: Master of Arts in Teaching Program, Accelerated Master of Arts in Teaching Program, and Accelerated Master in Teaching Math and Science Program.
 - Pacific Lutheran University: Master in Teaching with Certification Program
 - Evergreen State College: Master in Teaching Program
- Opportunities to network and collaborate with other teachers of color in a trusted community
- 3-day Martinez Fellows Summer Conference
- Five Saturday professional development seminars throughout the school year
- Early career coaching and support
- Leadership opportunities within and outside of the program



Understanding the Commitment of Becoming a MARTINEZ FELLOW

MARTINEZ FELLOWS agree to:

- Work as educators in Washington State K-12 public schools immediately upon graduation from their MIT program. Fellows must commit to teaching for a *minimum* of three years, preferably longer.
- Attend and participate in the annual Martinez Fellowship Summer Conference. Attendance is *mandatory* for first and second year Fellows (graduate students and first year teachers). Attendance in the third year and beyond is voluntary, but strongly encouraged.
- Participate in the Saturday Professional Development Seminars which are held 5 times over the course of the school year. *In person* attendance is *mandatory* for first and second year Fellows (graduate students and first year teachers). Attendance in the third year and beyond is strongly encouraged; opportunities are available for Fellows to lead Seminar workshops and discussions.
- Professional standards of conduct and punctuality are expected at Martinez Fellowship events.
- Serve as a role model as a professional educator and agree to help mentor and collaborate with other Fellows to improve K-12 teaching.
- Maintain accurate contact and work-site information, including: email address, phone number, home address, district, school, grade/subject.
- Participate in program surveys and/or research inquiries to help TAF learn more about teacher education, teacher effectiveness, and how to shape the Martinez Fellows program to recruit and retain future teacher candidates.
- Give permission to TAF to promote award recipients' names and bios on TAF's website, in press releases, print brochures, video clips, and by introducing them at TAF sponsored events.
- Participate in Community Events throughout the year and/or host events for other Fellows to attend.

The Application Process:

The Martinez Fellowship scholarship is an **annual, nonrecurring award** for candidates of color admitted to a Masters in Teaching program at one of our partner universities. Scholarship recipients may receive different award amounts (the average award is \$5,000). There is no set number of awards given each year. In cooperation with partner universities, some of the scholarship funds awarded to Martinez Fellows come from other sources.

Criteria for selection as a Martinez Fellow:

- Successful admission to a partner university's Masters in Teaching program
- Identify ethnicity as a person of color (other than Caucasian)
- Demonstrate a commitment to social justice
- Willingness to sign a contract agreeing to (1) teach for 3 years in a Washington public school (preferably in a diverse, high-needs school) and (2) participate in Martinez Fellowship Program networking and professional development opportunities
- Experience with school age youth, education, youth development, social services or related field
- Demonstration of financial need (preferred)



To apply:

- **Identify Program and Apply:** Submit an application to any of the university partner, Master in Teaching programs
- Submit the following application materials to
 - a. **Essay:** All applicants write an essay (2 page limit/typed), addressing these topics:
 - *As a Martinez Fellow, you will have access to a vibrant community of educators/leaders of color. What will it mean to you personally and professionally to become a Martinez Fellow?*
 - *Describe an experience where you gained a deeper understanding of your cultural identity. How will this moment impact you as a professional educator?*
 - b. **Resume:** A current resume must be submitted with your essay.
- **Interview:** An interview panel consisting of TAF staff, current Martinez Fellows, and a university staff/faculty member will conduct 30 minute interviews with candidate finalists.

Please direct all questions to La'akea Yoshida, Martinez Fellowship Program Coordinator: laakeay@techaccess.org