

Teach For America and New Leaders For New Schools

TEACHFORAMERICA

Supporting school leaders to ensure every student achieves at high academic levels

When you became a corps member, you joined the national movement for educational equity. As a teacher, you worked to ensure students in your class succeeded academically. As a principal, you can dramatically impact an entire school.

We believe that great principals lead great schools. New Leaders for New Schools offers Teach For America alumni a unique pathway to the principalship.

Based on preliminary analysis of K-8 achievement data from the RAND Corporation's five-year longitudinal study of New Leaders, students in schools led by New Leaders principals for at least three years are making academic achievement gains faster than comparable students, by statistically significant margins.



WHO ARE WE?

New Leaders for New Schools is a national nonprofit organization with one clear mission: to ensure high academic achievement for every student by attracting and preparing outstanding leaders and supporting the performance of the urban schools they lead, at scale. To achieve this goal, New Leaders for New Schools provides a unique pathway for passionate and resourceful educators to become principals in high-need communities across the country. Now in our eighth year, 567 New Leaders—including 72 Teach For America alumni—serve over 280,000 students in nine locations: Baltimore, California's Bay Area, Chicago, Memphis, Milwaukee, New Orleans, New York City, Prince George's County, MD, and Washington, D.C.

WHAT DO WE OFFER?

Once accepted into New Leaders for New Schools, participants engage in an intensive program that involves:

Summer Foundations: A rigorous five-week training institute with New Leaders from across the nation. Taught by national education and business leaders, the program focuses on developing instructional and organizational leadership skills.

Residency Year: A yearlong, full-time, paid residency in an urban public school working alongside a mentor principal. With the support of a veteran principal who works full-time on our staff, residents are members of school leadership teams and are directly responsible for raising student achievement and leading teachers. Once a week, New Leaders convene with other residents in their program site cohort to share best practices and lessons learned. In addition, all residents come together as a national community for four, week-long seminars throughout the year that further develop their leadership skills.

Ongoing Support and Community: New Leaders receive job search support to identify and secure school leadership positions. Once in school leadership roles, New Leaders continue to be supported by New Leaders staff and the broader New Leaders community as they work toward the goal of high academic achievement for every student. New Leaders become life-long members of the New Leaders Community and benefit from continual feedback, support, and the exchange of effective practices from this national network of educational leaders.

New Leaders commit to serving in their school districts for at least five to six years as an urban public school principal. In return, New Leaders receive approximately \$100,000 in coursework, instruction, and support at no cost to them. Additionally, residents are paid directly by the school districts or charter systems, receiving the same salaries and health benefits as other assistant principals in the district with which they work.

WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Though united by common values, our New Leaders are diverse in every respect. They range in age from mid-20s to mid-50s, over two-thirds are people of color, and they represent a diversity of successful backgrounds in education, nonprofit, business, policy, and other sectors.

Successful candidates have several things in common:

- » An unyielding belief and sense of urgency to ensure high-level academic success for all students
- » An average of five to six years instructional expertise in a K-12 classroom
- » A record of success in leading adults and students
- » A relentless drive to lead an excellent urban public school

All New Leaders must meet our 10 selection criteria:

BELIEFS AND ORIENTATION

- » Belief that all students will excel academically
- » Personal responsibility and relentless drive
- » Results orientation

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT

- » Problem solving
- » Project management to deliver results

TEACHING AND LEARNING

- » Knowledge of teaching and learning

LEADERSHIP QUALITIES

- » Adult leadership
- » Communication and listening
- » Interpersonal skills
- » Self-awareness and commitment to ongoing learning

Visit www.nlins.org for more information on these criteria and the admissions process.

HOW DO I APPLY?

To apply to become a New Leader, submit an application online at www.nlins.org.

There are two deadlines to apply to New Leaders for New Schools.

The priority application deadline is October 27, 2008. The final deadline is February 17, 2009.

There are minimum application requirements that vary by program city:

- » All applicants must possess a minimum of two to three years of full-time K-12 classroom teaching experience.
- » A teaching certificate is required in some of our program cities.

Please refer to our website for city-specific information.

For more information, visit our website at www.nlins.org or contact our Recruitment and Admissions Team at: info@nlins.org.

SEEKING ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE BEFORE BECOMING A PRINCIPAL?

Teach For America and New Leaders for New Schools are partnering to build a pipeline of effective school leaders across the country. Developing Leaders provides unique opportunities for Teach For America alumni to cultivate their leadership capacity in schools led by New Leaders principals in specific locations prior to applying to the residency. For more information, please write to developingleaders@nlins.org

Making the commitment to a simple, but powerful belief that ALL students can achieve at high levels has led to the most deeply satisfying experience of my life: creating real school community, one that defies low expectations, and builds undeniable examples of success and student achievement. Our work brings together people passionate about the art of teaching, the power of social equity and the joy of watching young people learn – but make no mistake – it’s challenging work. It is in the collaborative spirit of New Leaders for New Schools that we do not find ourselves isolated in this effort.

—Daniel Kramer (Los Angeles, '90), Director of Education, Architecture Construction & Engineering Technical Charter High School, Chicago, IL