

*“Innovation starts from the bottom up.
That’s where you find the true heart of the matter.”*

– Sue Brumbaugh, Fourth Grade Teacher, Havelock Elementary School, Havelock, North Carolina

2020 TRUESCHOOL FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION IS NOW OPEN!

School Leaders or Teacher Leaders [APPLY NOW](#)

District Leaders or TrueSchool Alumni [NOMINATE NOW](#)

- School Nomination Deadline = September 15
- School Application Round 1 Deadline = September 15
- School Application Round 2 Deadline = October 15

The majority of schools will be selected in Round 1. Start now and apply early!

The next TrueSchool Fellowship runs Jan-Dec 2020. Educators participate as school teams of 4-6, including the school leader and at least 3 teacher leaders.

Thanks to the generous support of our impact investors, the 2020 Fellowship experience is fully-funded for **up to 20 school teams in Nebraska, North Carolina, + Missouri. Every team successfully completing the Fellowship receives a direct micro-investment of \$500-\$2000, based on evidence + potential for student impact.**

The School Leader OR a Teacher Leader may submit the application on behalf of their school. If you are an educator outside of NE, NC, or MO and interested in applying for the TrueSchool Fellowship, [please indicate your interest here](#). We have a limited number of funded Fellowships for school teams elsewhere in the U.S.

CURIOUS TO LEARN MORE? RSVP FOR AN UPCOMING WEBINAR

Interested in learning more about the TrueSchool Fellowship? Have any questions? Sign up for a 30-minute webinar with our Impact Team for more details and Q&A.

Our Manager of Impact and State Leads will share our approach, our results, and a deep dive into the learning experience. Note: You are welcome to RSVP and join ANY of the below webinars. We encourage you to attend live if possible, so you can ask questions and engage with our team directly. If you are unable to attend at the below days/times, a video of the webinar will be posted on this page.

- Webinar 1 with Missouri State Lead Sept 9, 3:30-4 CT
- Webinar 2 with North Carolina State Lead October 2, 4:30-5 ET/3:30-4 CT
- Webinar 3 with Nebraska State Lead October 3, 10-10:30 CT

To RSVP for webinars, visit www.trueschool.org/apply

WHAT IS TRUESCHOOL?

TrueSchool is a social impact organization focused on realizing excellent, continuously improving education systems in which ALL students achieve and thrive. We do this by activating, developing, and investing in outstanding education leaders who are driving forward enduring systems-level improvements in schools, across districts, and throughout states.

WHAT IS THE TRUESCHOOL FELLOWSHIP?

The TrueSchool Fellowship is a national, fully-funded, year-long learning experience for school teams. Schools that are selected create a “TrueSchool Team” of 4-6 educators, including the principal and at least 3 teacher leaders. Every school successfully completing the Fellowship receives a direct micro-investment of \$500-2000, based on evidence and potential for student impact.

During the Fellowship year, educators come together to address a critical call-to-action for educational equity. They adopt the mindset of innovators within their buildings and gain mastery of the [TrueSchool Process](#) for continuous school improvement. They stretch, grow, and develop as individual changemakers and exceptional school leadership teams. They connect with a learning community of visionary educators across their state. And they access a national platform to share their ideas and learn about the innovative work of other schools across the country.

The TrueSchool Fellowship has proven results and impact. By the end of the Fellowship year, each school team has created, implemented, and [shared an innovative learning model](#) to improve student achievement and equity. Across the cohort, the Fellowship significantly increases educator collective efficacy—the BEST leading indicator of student achievement. It also improves the commitment and retention of outstanding education leaders to their schools, districts, and the field of education. [For more detailed information about the impact of the Fellowship experience, please visit our Impact page.](#)

HOW ARE SCHOOLS SELECTED?

Each year, state-wide cohorts of school teams (100-200 TrueSchool Fellows per state) are selected through a competitive application process. The process is rigorous and selective, with only a small number of slots per state. We look for educators with exceptional drive and schools with potential to serve as models of student achievement and equity for their state and the country. When scoring the applications, we look for evidence of the following:

- Champions of equity
- Innovator’s mindset
- Sense of ownership and bias towards action
- Collaborative leadership and environment
- Willingness to empower teacher leaders

Schools that are nominated by a district leader and/or previous TrueSchool Fellow are given additional points in the application scoring process. If possible, we highly recommend securing the nomination of your district leader or a colleague who participated in a previous year [via this nomination form.](#)



WHAT IS THE STRUCTURE + TIME COMMITMENT OF THE FELLOWSHIP?

The Fellowship experience includes three core components: Studios, Coaching, and Fieldwork Support

FOUR FULL-DAY STUDIOS: The core skill-building and community-building element of our Fellowship is our Studios: facilitated, fast-paced, cohort-wide workshops. There are four full-day Studios spread out over the 12-month period.

FIELDWORK: Between Studios, educators take everything they've learned back to their schools and apply the process, engaging in a wide range of what we call "Fieldwork" actions. Grounded in a human-centered approach, educators engage in fieldwork actions like interviews, shadowing, observations, and prototyping – continuously gathering feedback from students and stakeholders to improve. This empathy work continues to be core to everything we do.

COACHING: Between Studios, certified TrueSchool Coaches provide thought-partnership as teams independently navigate Fieldwork actions, capture learnings in their digital TrueSchool Blueprints, and learn and improve fast. Coaching is differentiated based on school needs. Generally, each school team will have at least one Coach meeting between Studios.

WHAT ARE THE DATES + LOCATIONS OF THE IN-PERSON STUDIOS?

Studios are the only component of the Fellowship which will require teams to travel in order to meet in-person. There are four full Studio days on Saturdays spread out over the course of the Fellowship year.

2020 Studio Dates in Nebraska

Region A: Metro NE – 1/25, 4/4, 8/1, 10/10
Region B: Western NE – 2/1, 4/18, 8/8, 10/24

2020 Studio Dates in North Carolina

Region A: Eastern NC – 1/25, 4/4, 8/1, 10/10
Region B: Western NC – 2/1, 4/18, 8/8, 10/24

2020 Studio Dates in Missouri

Region A: St. Louis Area – 1/25, 4/4, 8/1, 10/10
Region B: TBD – 2/1, 4/18, 8/8, 10/24

Studio Locations: Studios will be hosted by participating districts and exact locations are TBD based on the schools that are ultimately selected. We anticipate running at least 2 regional cohorts in each state in order to reduce travel time.

MORE FAQs ARE AVAILABLE AT WWW.TRUESCHOOL.ORG/APPLY