



THE WOODROW WILSON  
National Fellowship Foundation

## FACT SHEET: THE 2015 WOODROW WILSON NEW JERSEY TEACHING FELLOWS

### About the 2015 Fellows

- In 2015, the Foundation has named 65\* Woodrow Wilson New Jersey Teaching Fellows. They will attend The College of New Jersey; Montclair State University; Rowan University; Rutgers University–Camden; and William Paterson University.
- Of these new WW New Jersey Teaching Fellows:
  - 98% majored in a STEM discipline.
    - 52% (35 Fellows) sciences, 18% engineering and tech, and 28% mathematics.
  - 20% (13 Fellows) have done advanced degree work.
    - The Fellows have 13 master’s degrees among them, including a master’s in digital forensics, forensic medicine, public health, and architecture.
    - One Fellow also has a Ph.D.
  - Most Fellows are Dean’s List/honors graduates, with memberships in various academic honoraries.
- 58% of the Fellows are teacher candidates of color, versus 16% in the overall teaching force.
- Almost half are male (45%)—noteworthy in a profession where as many as three-quarters of practitioners are female.
- The Fellows bring a wide range of life experiences to their work:
  - 26% (17) graduated from their undergraduate institution in 2015.
  - An additional 46% (30) graduated between one and five years ago.
  - The final 28% (18) earned undergraduate degrees more than five years ago. Their work histories include tenures at organizations such as General Electric, Lockheed Martin, Fuji Film, and the Philadelphia Zoo.
  - Four Fellows have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.
  - One Fellow has interned as a forensic investigator.
  - Four Fellows have extended experience with animals: one as a researcher and conservationist, two as animal care interns at a nature center and a zoo, and one as a certified veterinary technician.
- The Fellowship is drawing on in-state talent: 82% of the Fellows are New Jersey residents. The out-of-state candidates come from California, Connecticut, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, New York, and Pennsylvania.
- Fellows remain deeply committed to community service. Most participate in volunteer work, some with organizations such as The Boys and Girls Club and the Boy Scouts of America, among others. Fellows also volunteer their time at schools as math league, Science Olympiad, and youth sports coaches.

### About the Fellowship

- The goals of the Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellowship are to:
  - Attract the very best candidates to teaching
  - Put strong teachers into high-need schools
  - Cut teacher attrition and retain top teachers
  - Transform university-based teacher education
- The Fellowships recruit teachers—both recent college graduates and career changers—with strong backgrounds in the STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics).
- In New Jersey the program is supported by a consortium of funders, coordinated by the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, with initial funding of \$10.6 million.
- Each Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellow receives a \$30,000 Fellowship to complete a specially designed, cutting-edge master’s degree program, as preparation to teach in high-need urban or rural secondary schools.
- Fellows commit to teach for three years, with ongoing mentoring.
- Universities agree to redesign their teacher education programs.
- **New Jersey launched its Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellowship in 2012**, with partner campuses preparing their Fellowship programs in the intervening months. The 2015 class of Fellows is the **second class (or cohort) of Fellows to be named in New Jersey**.

\*Three Fellows declined to be included in publication materials.