

**FACT SHEET:  
THE 2016 WOODROW WILSON NEW JERSEY TEACHING FELLOWS**

**About the 2015 Fellows**

- In 2016, the Foundation has named 62\* 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:
  - 99% majored in a STEM discipline.
    - 75% (46 Fellows) sciences, 5% engineering and tech, and 19% mathematics.
  - 25% (15 Fellows) have done advanced degree work.
    - The Fellows have 13 master’s degrees among them, including a master’s in biomedical engineering, radiation biophysics, and environmental biology.
    - One Fellow also has a Ph.D.
    - Two Fellows hold law degrees.
    - One Fellow holds an M.D.
  - Most Fellows are Dean’s List/honors graduates, with memberships in various academic honoraries.
- 32% of the Fellows are teacher candidates of color, versus 16% in the overall teaching force.
- 34% are male—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:
  - 34% (21) graduated from their undergraduate institution in 2016.
  - An additional 41% (25) graduated between one and five years ago.
  - The final 25% (15) earned undergraduate degrees more than five years ago. Their work histories include tenures at organizations such as the Peace Corps, the American Red Cross, and the Staten Island Zoo.
  - One Fellow is a registered nurse.
  - Two Fellows previously received Clare Boothe Luce Scholarships, which support women in STEM.
- The Fellowship is drawing on in-state talent: 70% of the Fellows are New Jersey residents. The out-of-state candidates come from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Missouri, New York, Nevada and Pennsylvania.
- Fellows remain deeply committed to community service. Most participate in volunteer work, some with organizations such as The Boys and Girls Club, Habitat for Humanity, the Ronald McDonald House, and the Girl Scouts of America, among others. Fellows also volunteer their time at schools at animal shelters, as FIRST robotics coaches, 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 current funding at \$13.4 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 2016 class of Fellows is the **third class (or cohort) of Fellows to be named in New Jersey**.

\*One Fellow declined to be named in publication materials.