



# Washington Teachers' Union

***Amplifying the voice of DC teachers***

1239 Pennsylvania Avenue SE • Washington, DC 20003 • 202.517.1477 • [www.local6.org](http://www.local6.org)

## **WTU Teacher Leaders Guidelines and Application**

**Deadline: September 3, 2019**

### **Guidelines**

The Washington Teachers' Union invites you to participate in the Teacher Leaders program for school year 2019-2020. Educators from the District of Columbia Public Schools who are union members with full-time responsibilities will be selected to join a nationwide teacher leaders' network. We are seeking teachers who would like to take an active role in influencing policy in the following areas:

1. Teacher Leadership in School Change-the ways in which teachers develop as leaders
2. Teacher Preparation and New Teacher Induction-the ways in which teachers are educated, recruited, oriented, evaluated, supported, and retained
3. Ongoing Professional Growth-the means by which teachers engage in professional growth, learning opportunities, and reflection
4. Teacher Networks-the ways in which teachers connect to other teachers and organizations for the purpose of expanding their learning community
5. Role of High Stakes Testing-how students are assessed and how students are prepared for college and career readiness
6. School Design-how schools are organized and how instruction is delivered
7. Teacher Evaluation-the need for fair and meaningful accountability

We will provide teachers with opportunities to develop the knowledge and skills to influence policy locally, statewide, and nationally. This will include framing practical policy positions that relate to improved student achievement; conducting research in classrooms and schools; engaging the public and elected officials in community conversations about education; participating on advisory boards, panels, and task forces; developing policy recommendations based on research conducted; and publishing and disseminating findings and recommendations nationwide.

Educators selected for the program will:

- Increase knowledge of major challenges facing the education profession through readings and discussions with leading policy experts.



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- Improve leadership skills.
- Be recognized by the public and media.
- Represent teachers nationwide as spokespersons and become members of a nationwide community.
- Participate in conducting research and using it in influencing policy.
- Attend monthly workshops 9am-4pm at 1239 Pennsylvania Ave., SE on
  - September 28, 2019
  - October 19, 2019
  - November 16, 2019
  - December 14, 2019
  - January 25, 2020
  - February 22, 2020
  - March 21, 2020
  - April 4, 2020
  - WTU TEACHER LEADER SYMPOSIUM: May 16, 2020.
- Be awarded a \$1500 stipend.

We are seeking a diverse group of teacher-leaders who are active in their school communities and have track records in working to improve schools.

The application is due no later than September 3, 2019. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Sarah Elwell, WTU Teacher Leaders Program Coordinator via email at [sunnysarah03@gmail.com](mailto:sunnysarah03@gmail.com).

All portions of the application must be submitted or the application will be considered incomplete:

(1) Application; (2) Commitments; (3) Essay; and (4) Two letters of recommendation.

***Please note: All applicants are required to attend an hour-long group interview.***

## Application

Your Name	
School Name	
School Address	
Zip Code	
School Phone	
Home Address	
Zip Code	
Home Phone	



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Cell Phone	
Email Address	
What subjects do you teach?	
How many years have you been teaching?	
What was your preparation for becoming a teacher?	
How have you continued your professional development?	
Please list any professional organizations of which you are a member.	
Please list your areas of interest in education and education policy.	

## **Commitments**

Please initial the commitments on the lines provided:

\_\_\_\_\_ I will be available by email on a regular basis.



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\_\_\_\_\_ I will attend the all full-day Saturday meetings @9am-4pm: **September 28, 2019; October 19, 2019; November 16, 2019; December 14, 2019; January 25, 2020; February 22, 2020; March 21, 2020; April 4, 2020;** and present your research at the culminating WTU Teacher Leader symposium on May 16, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will complete and be prepared to discuss the assigned readings related to education policymaking.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will conduct an advocacy action each month.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will communicate as requested on the AFT eLearning platform.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will participate in conducting research and other documentation.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will submit an article to a local paper.

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## Essay

Please write a short essay (approximately two typed, double-spaced pages) describing an initiative in which you were an active participant that was designed to produce positive classroom or school change. Be specific about your role.

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## Recommendations

Please attach two letters of support. Appropriate references would be from your principal, chapter chair, colleague, student, parent, or other individual who can speak to your leadership abilities and school improvement efforts.

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## Applicant's Signature

Date

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**The application deadline for this program is**  
**September 3, 2019.**

Email application to: [sunnysarah03@gmail.com](mailto:sunnysarah03@gmail.com).

Mail application to:

WTU, 1239 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20003