IDAHO NEW SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP
SEEKING AMBITIOUS ED ENTREPRENEURS

Overview

The Idaho New School Fellowship aims to transform education for Idaho’s neediest students by empowering educational leaders who are passionate about improving the prospects of children. We seek to recruit top education talent into the ranks of Idaho’s public school leadership. Fellows will receive two years of best-in-class leadership development through a consortium of Idaho based and national partners (e.g. Building Hope, KIPP Fisher Fellowship, 4.0 Schools, etc.). Idaho specific training will be provided through Bluum and its local partners.

The strongest candidates for the fellowship possess a coherent instructional vision of what a high-performing school looks like, have extensive experience in leading, motivating and developing teams of adults, and a deep commitment to serving all children.

Idaho is the nation’s fastest growing state. Our supply of high-performing school seats is tight, and our demographics are changing rapidly. This is an opportunity to be on the front lines of school change and improvement efforts in one of the country’s most dynamic and innovative states.

The Idaho New School Fellowship is a highly-selective paid two-year experience. New School Fellows will work with staff from Bluum, partner schools, and national partners to plan, develop and launch a high-performing public charter school in an Idaho community. Upon successful completion of the two-year program the Idaho New School Fellow will be eligible for up to $1.5 million in new school grant support.
The New School Fellowship has supported six outstanding educators since 2016 to design, build, and launch high-performing public charter schools in the Idaho communities of Garden City, Caldwell and Fruitland. See their progress at bluum.org/meet-fellows.

What the Idaho New School Fellowship Provides

- Best-in-class school leadership development training through state and national partnerships
- Idaho specific training on financial management and navigating the legal requirements to open a school in Idaho
- Hands-on residencies in some of Idaho’s high-performing schools
- Assistance in developing an effective, innovative and financially viable charter school
- Competitive Compensation
  - Full time salary, benefits, and office space for two years
- Start-up funding to launch an approved new school model
- Access to Teach for America Idaho and school facilities experts Building Hope.
- The opportunity to make a difference for an increasingly diverse group of students in one of America’s most beautiful and naturally wild states

Who Should Apply?

The characteristics for those who will make a successful candidate include:

- A deep belief that all children, no matter their personal backgrounds or previous educational experience, can learn and become productive citizens
- Demonstrated leadership in education or other relevant fields of human development
- Proven achievement in academic, professional, community, and/or voluntary settings
- Fortitude and integrity when the going gets tough
- Evidence of staying true to a cause and reaching the toughest goals
- Exceptional critical thinking skills, including the ability to find solutions to what others consider insoluble problems
• Ability to organize others to get things done
• Interpersonal skills necessary to motivate others to follow
• Passion to thrive in a new environment with challenging opportunities
• Operate well outside of own comfort zone
• Respect for others

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**What is Bluum?**

Bluum is a non-profit organization committed to ensuring Idaho’s children reach their fullest potential by cultivating great leaders and innovative schools. Bluum believes that school choice helps families, children and educators achieve more and do better. Bluum works to help Idaho become a national model for how to maximize learning opportunities for children and families.

**Why Idaho?**

Idaho is the fastest growing state in the country, and is annually rated one of the best places to live in America. The state has the highest patents per capita and has among the highest number of PhD’s per capita. Its population of 1.7 million is rapidly becoming more diverse. But to maintain its status as a top place to live education will have to improve. Less than half of all Idaho students are proficient in reading and math and less than a quarter of adults in the state have a bachelor’s degree or higher. Looking more closely at the student population, there’s a disparity in the performance of low-income and Hispanic students across the state.

Idaho was built on the values of choice, resilience, the ability to think independently, and on the frontier spirit of pioneers who are committed to building a future that is better and very different to the past. Idaho is an American jewel in need of top talent willing to lead schools and educate students to the highest levels possible.

**Why invest in School Leaders?**

According to the Stanford education economist Eric Hanushek, "highly effective principals raise the achievement of a typical student in their schools by between two and seven months of learning in a single school year; ineffective principals lower achievement by the same amount." School leaders are key to improving education for Idaho’s children.
Who is eligible to apply?

Educators who are passionate about improving the prospects of children. Specifically, we are looking for highly successful educators with at least three years of teaching experience and demonstrable evidence of improving student learning in their classrooms over time, and a commitment to investing themselves in Idaho and its future.

When does the Idaho New School Fellowship begin and end?

The selected candidate will be notified by February 2019. The Idaho New School Fellowship ends with the expectation that the Fellow will launch a new school in Idaho in August 2021.

Where is the Idaho New School Fellowship based?

The Idaho New School Fellowship is based in Boise, Idaho and will include travel around Idaho and the United States for research and development as necessary. A travel stipend will be available to fellows for school visits and other learning opportunities.

What support is provided to Idaho New School Fellows after conclusion of the program?

Bluum will provide ongoing support to the Idaho New School Fellow during the two years of the fellowship and after the new school is launched.

What support is made available for opening a new school model?

If an Idaho New School Fellow is in good standing and receives a charter from the state of Idaho to launch a new school, the J. A. and Kathryn Albertson Family Foundation will consider a multi-year grant to help support the opening of the Fellow’s school.

How do I apply for the Idaho New School Fellowship?

Interested applicants can apply for the Idaho New School Fellowship at http://bit.ly/NewSchoolFellow. This initial application requests you submit a resume and answer two short essay questions. We will follow up with candidates within one month of submitting a completed application.

If you have other questions?

Contact fellowships@bluum.org