



## *Guidelines and Application*

The Rodel Foundation of Delaware invites you to become a fellow in the Teachers Network Leadership Institute (TNLI) for the **2005-2006** school year. Teachers from Delaware public schools with full-time classroom responsibilities are eligible to join a nationwide network of teachers who conduct action research and get involved in influencing education policy.

TNLI provides teachers with opportunities to develop the knowledge and skills to influence policy locally, statewide, and nationally. TNLI Fellows' work includes framing practical policy positions that relate to improved student achievement; conducting action research in their 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.

Teachers selected to become fellows in the Teachers Network Leadership Institute Delaware will:

- increase their knowledge of major challenges facing the teaching profession through readings and discussions with leading policy experts
- improve their leadership skills
- be recognized by the public and media
- represent teachers nationwide as spokespersons for policy issues
- participate in conducting TNLI Action Research and using it in influencing policy
- become members of a national online community, and
- be awarded a \$1,000 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. Fellows will participate in online and face-to-face discussions.

The Teachers Network Leadership Institute is a major initiative of Teachers Network. TNLI works in partnership with New York University's Steinhardt School of Education, the Education Commission of the States, and the National Commission on Teaching & America's Future. Nationally, TNLI is funded by the MetLife Foundation, the Booth Ferris Foundation, and the Rita J. and Stanley H. Kaplan Family Foundation, and locally, by the Rodel Foundation of Delaware.

The application is due by **May 31, 2005**. Applicants will be contacted for interviews within two weeks. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please call Michael Rasmussen at the Rodel Foundation of Delaware at (302) 504-5249. Please email applications to [mrasmussen@rodelfoundations.org](mailto:mrasmussen@rodelfoundations.org). Alternatively, mail or fax completed application to:

**Rodel Foundation of Delaware, 100 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 704, Wilmington, DE 19801  
or Fax to (302) 571-1538**

If you would like to find out more about Teachers Network and/or the Teachers Network Leadership Institute, please access the web site at [www.teachersnetwork.org](http://www.teachersnetwork.org), or e-mail Michael Rasmussen with the Rodel Foundation at [mrasmussen@rodelfoundations.org](mailto:mrasmussen@rodelfoundations.org). For more information about the Rodel Foundation of Delaware, please visit our website at [www.rodelfoundationde.org](http://www.rodelfoundationde.org) or call (302) 571-1536.

**Application for the Delaware Teachers Network Leadership Institute**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

School Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

***Experience***

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:

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Please list your areas of interest in education and education policy: \_\_\_\_\_

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***Commitments***

Please check off all the commitments in the boxes provided:

- I have access to the necessary computer equipment and will participate online. I will check my e-mail on a regular basis.
- I will attend full-day Saturday sessions once every month (i.e., September through June). I understand that these sessions provide opportunities to participate in conversations with policymakers, discuss readings, and develop action research plans.
- I will complete and be prepared to discuss the assigned readings related to education policymaking.
- I will participate in conducting TNLI Action Research and writing documentation.
- I will work with Teachers Network to publish an article concerning my fellowship in a local paper.

***Essay***

Please write a short essay (approximately two typed double-spaced pages) about what inspires your passion as a teacher and how that has affected your working in your school and classroom. Excellent written communication skills will be taken into account when selecting TNLI Fellows.

***Recommendations***

Please attach two letters of support—one from your principal and one from a colleague, student, parent, or other individual of your choice who can speak to your leadership abilities and school improvement efforts.

Applicant's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_