

Science Education for Excellence and Equity in Chicago (Project SEEEC) Teaching Fellows (TF) Application

Please Note: In order to be selected as a Project SEEEC TF, you must also be admitted to the UIC MEd in Science Education Strand A, which has a separate application process. Please see: <http://education.uic.edu/academics-admissions/programs/science-education-overview>

Project SEEEC (Science Education for Excellence and Equity in Chicago) is a National Science Foundation (NSF) funded project and partnership between science education and science faculty at UIC, Chicago Public Schools (CPS), and several Chicago non-for-profit organizations including: Project SYNCERE, Little Village Environmental Justice Organization, Chicago Freedom School, Chicago Botanic Garden, Friends of the Chicago River, Institute for Latino Progress, and Project NIA. It enriches and supports, in various ways, UIC's MEd in Instructional Leadership: Science Education–Strand A program, which prepares students for licensure for teaching one (or more) science disciplines at the high school level. The focus of the SEEEC-enhanced MEd is to develop urban science educators whose practice is standards-driven, evidence-based, research-informed, and responsive to community and student needs.

One of the ways in which Project SEEEC enriches the MEd program is its emphasis on increasing the representation of African Americans and Latina/os among CPS science teachers. Project SEEEC offers significant financial support to qualified teacher candidates, called Teaching Fellows (TFs), who commit to teaching in the Chicago Public Schools (CPS) for at least four years. TFs receive tuition waivers for three semesters of coursework in the MEd in Instructional Leadership: Science Education–Strand A program. This support is intended to waive the full cost of tuition for students who complete the program according to the 12-month (May-to-May) schedule. For TFs who take longer than 12-months to complete the MEd, tuition waivers will be available only during three specified semesters when the TFs are enrolled in the bulk of teacher education courses including student teaching. TFs also receive a stipend of \$10,000 during the completion of the MEd program, and a supplement of \$10,000 to their regular teacher salary for each of the first four years of their teaching careers in CPS.

In addition to completing all MEd program requirements, Project SEEEC TFs are required to participate in workshops and activities led by Project SEEEC's non-for-profit organization partners. These workshops are intended to complement the MEd coursework and may take place outside of normal class meeting times, and may be attended by all MEd students. Upon graduation from the MEd program, TFs must seek employment as a high school science teacher in CPS. During the first four years in which TFs work in CPS, they are required to participate in teacher inquiry groups (TIGs), which will be led by Project SEEEC Master Teaching Fellows (MTFs). TIGs will meet regularly and support TFs in conducting teacher inquiry projects in their classrooms. As they strengthen their practice and inquiry skills, TFs are expected to write up and/or present their teacher inquiry projects at relevant conferences and via various publications.

Project SEEEC's NSF-funded teaching fellowships are a competitive award based on academic merit and diversification of the workforce. In some cases, financial need is considered. The total financial support includes three semesters of tuition waivers and five annual stipends of \$10,000 each. ** Receipt of this scholarship is subject to demonstrated academic quality and the likelihood of maintaining that quality in graduate studies.

To apply, please complete and submit the following (in addition to applying to the MEd program):

- 1) *Project SEEEC Teaching Fellows Application*
- 2) CPS four-year teaching commitment statement (250 words max, see final page for instructions)
- 3) FAFSA application (optional)

* Employment is not guaranteed by CPS. If CPS does not offer employment, TFs should apply to other urban districts.

** Please note that while the SEEEC award eases the financial burden on students, it may simultaneously decrease a student's current financial aid package. Please check with Financial Aid as to the possible financial ramifications of this scholarship on current financial aid. If a student is not on financial aid, the scholarship is issued through Student Accounts to awardees as a check. If any student has outstanding UIC debt, the university subtracts that amount from this award.

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Once the following application is complete, please sign and initial in the required places and send an electronic copy of the signed application to moralesd@uic.edu. Receipt of emailed applications will be confirmed promptly. Please also send the original signed application to:

Daniel Morales-Doyle
University of Illinois at Chicago
College of Education
1040 W Harrison Street M/C 147
Chicago, IL 60607

The UIC College of Education and Graduate College portions of the application to the MEd in Science Education (Strand A) must also be completed. In order to be considered for our final cohort of Project SEEEC Teaching Fellows (2017-18), the deadline for all of these materials is **February 1, 2017**.

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Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Maiden Name, or any Former Legal Name: _____

Birth Date: _____ Race and/or Ethnicity: _____
(MM/DD/YYYY)

Please check one: US Citizen Permanent Resident Gender: Male Female

Mailing Address: _____

STREET

APT. /UNIT

CITY STATE ZIP

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Date of FAFSA application submission (optional): _____
(Please note: If you completed the FAFSA application and listed UIC as your school the program office will secure the FAFSA results from the UIC Office of Financial Aid once the results are ready.)

Student Teaching Semester (*Note: this is the semester of anticipated graduation*):
 Spring 2018

Endorsements Sought: Check all that apply. *Note that pursuing ESL, bilingual, or middle grades endorsements may not be possible within the 12-month MEd schedule. Additional science endorsements require 12 credit hours of undergraduate coursework in that field and the applicable state content area exam. MEd students are encouraged to pursue multiple science endorsements. Project SEEEC prioritizes the preparation of chemistry and physics teachers.*

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|---|---|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> HS Science - Biology | <input type="checkbox"/> HS Science - Environmental Science | <input type="checkbox"/> ESL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HS Science - Chemistry | <input type="checkbox"/> HS Science - Physics | <input type="checkbox"/> Bilingual |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HS Science - Earth and Space | | |

To inform our recruitment efforts for the next cohort of Project SEEEC scholars, please provide as much information as you can (or as you are comfortable with) about how you learned of Project SEEEC and the UIC MEd program.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> UIC Website | <input type="checkbox"/> UIC information session |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other website advertisement, name of site: _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email blast, name of organization sending blast: _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Referral/Word of Mouth, name of person: _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conference program advertisement, name of conference: _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paper flyer, location flyer was received: _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alumni organization, name of organization: _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advisor, name, university, and department of advisor: _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please describe: _____ | |

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Please initial each statement below to signify your understanding and commitment.

_____ I understand that withholding information requested on this application, or giving false information, may make me ineligible for receipt of a *Project SEEEC Teaching Fellowship*, or may make me subject to dismissal from Project SEEEC. I certify that the statements I have made on this application are correct and complete.

_____ I understand that members of the *Project SEEEC Teaching Fellowship Selection Committee*, which includes members of UIC faculty, will review all the information I have provided. I further understand that the decision of the committee is final and not subject to appeal.

_____ I understand that if I am selected, I must commit to participating in professional development workshops and activities led by Project SEEEC non-for-profit partner organizations (NPFOS) that are designed to complement my coursework at UIC. I understand that failure to participate in these workshops may result in a reduction in, or elimination of, the annual stipend.

_____ I understand that if I am selected, I must commit to participating in a teacher inquiry group (TIG) led by a Project SEEEC master teaching fellow (MTF) for the first four years in which I work as a teacher. I understand that failure to participate in a TIG may result in a reduction in, or elimination of, the annual stipend.

_____ I understand that any failure to complete my four-year teaching commitment within Chicago Public Schools (or another urban district if CPS does not offer me employment as a science teacher) after my graduation requires that I pay back in full the scholarship and stipend amount through the university debt collection division. I also understand that maintaining contact with the Project SEEEC Director is my responsibility.

I have read and understand the conditions outlined above and agree to abide by them. I have initialed each item above and signed below to make explicit my agreement to these conditions and my commitment to abide by them. I have also attached a separate statement of 250 words or less summarizing my understanding of these conditions and requirements, including my commitment to urban schools and to fulfilling the four-year teaching requirement in a high-need Chicago Public School (or another urban district if CPS does not offer me employment as a science teacher) for four years after my graduation.

Print Name

Signature

Date

Maria Varelas, Ph.D.
Project SEEEC Principal Investigator and MEd Coordinator

Date:

Carole P. Mitchener, Ph.D.
Project SEEEC Co-Principal Investigator and MEd Co-Coordinator

Date:

Daniel Morales-Doyle, Ph.D.
Project SEEEC Co-Principal Investigator and Project Director

Date: