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School of Public Affairs Colorado Education Policy Cohort

2023-24 APPLICATION FORM

We are pleased to know of your interest in the School of Public Affairs Colorado Education Policy Cohort 2023-24. The Colorado Education Policy Cohort 2023-24 is a ten-month professional development program for individuals whose work record reflects strong leadership abilities and a concern for issues important to children and education. Participants in the Cohort 2023-24 hold full-time positions in diverse organizations at the local, state, and national levels. Each participant in the Cohort will be endorsed and financially supported by their employing agencies.

The goal of the School of Public Affairs Colorado Education Policy Cohort is to provide professional development to those who seek a stronger understanding of key education policy issues in our state. Members will learn more about topics such as the legislative process, school finance, school accountability, and issues pertaining to the teacher shortage. They will develop a stronger understanding of the policy process and the various aspects of education policy. Key education leaders and experts will join us for presentations and discussions each month. Time will be set aside for deeper reflection on the policy topics of special interest—as determined by the members of the Cohort that year.

Along with professional development, the other two central goals of the program are to expand and deepen each participant’s network in the education and policy space in Colorado, and to foster stronger leadership skills. Both goals speak to a larger purpose for the Colorado Education Policy Cohort: that participants complete our program more prepared to take on leadership roles in tackling the central education challenges confronting our state.

The purpose and structure of the program owes much to the eight years as the Colorado Education Policy Fellowship Program; between 2012-13 and 2019-20, 65 Coloradans completed this program, which was affiliated with the national EPFP office. Our revised program, the Colorado Education Policy Cohort, is independent of any national program. Its first year was 2020-21. As of June 2023, 27 Coloradans will have completed this program.

Colorado EPC operates under the auspices of:

The School of Public Affairs

University of Colorado at Denver

Denver, CO 80217-3364

(303) 837-8466

Paul Teske, Dean

The Colorado Education Policy Cohort seeks 8-10 participants for 2023-24, individuals eager to play a leadership role in education policy in our state.

For more information and to request additional applications, please email or call Peter Huidekoper Jr., Coordinator, Colorado Education Policy Cohort ([peterhdkpr@gmail.com)](mailto:peterhdkpr@gmail.com)) – 303-718-8177.

***Colorado Education Policy Cohort 2023-24***

The Colorado Education Policy Cohort brings together a diverse cohort of professionals from education, health, human services, government, and community organizations.

**ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION PROCESS**

**The Colorado Education Policy Cohort invites you to apply if you have:**

* A commitment to personal and professional development on behalf of children and youth;
* A track record for making things happen—inside and across agencies and organizations;
* Substantive work experiences, leadership experience, and a full-time professional position;
* A Bachelor's degree or its equivalent;
* The endorsement and financial support of your employing organization.

**What is my commitment if I am accepted as a member of the Colorado Education Policy Cohort?**

* Participate actively in **seven 3-hour seminars**, often held at the conclusion of a normal work day (such as dinner meetings on Tuesday or Wednesday from 4:30-7:15 or 4:45-7:30) in Denver:

**September, November, December, January, February, April, and May.**

Share your curiosity, experience, and knowledge with other members of the Cohort.

* Keep up with recommended readings in advance of the monthly meetings.
* **OCTOBER**: Travel to and participate in a **two-day, overnight visit** to a rural part of the state to gain a better understanding of our 146 rural districts. We will go to schools and meet with educators, school board members, and community leaders during our two-day visit.
* **MARCH**: Spend three hours-plus at the **Colorado Capitol** in March. Take a tour. Visit with members of the Education Committees. Watch hearings. Perhaps create an opportunity to advocate for legislation.
* **JUNE**: Produce a short policy brief on an education issue. Make a public presentation of that policy brief at our final session in **June 2024**. Through this culminating activity, cohort members demonstrate what they have learned during the year about effective communication and advocacy on education policy issues.

**How will my organization benefit from my participation in the Colorado Education Policy Cohort?**

Employers gain:

* Access to a professional development program.
* Better informed employees.
* Employees more prepared to assume greater leadership roles.
* Expanded networks that enhance the organization’s ability to access key leaders and decision makers who shape policy in Colorado on behalf of children and education.

**EMPLOYER’S COMMITMENT TO and SUPPORT of PARTICPANTS**

Participants need to be sponsored by their organizations.

Sponsors will need to allow each member to fulfill the commitments listed above (See **What is my commitment if I am accepted…**), granting time off to meet those expectations.

**PROGRAM FEES** **AND EMPLOYER SPONSORSHIP**

The candidate’s employing agency–the sponsor–will pay a fee of $400 to the University of Colorado at Denver’s School of Public Affairs to cover costs of the program. The $400 will cover dinners for the seven meetings, plus a dinner in June. Other costs will include travel and parking for the Coordinator, printing, a small portion for UC-D acting as our fiscal agent, and miscellaneous expenses. In addition, it covers travel, food, and hotel for the two-day visit to a rural community. [If the overnight visit to a rural community cannot take place and we only make a one-day visit, $100 will be refunded to each participant.]

**TO THE SUPERVISOR/EMPLOYING AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE:**

Your signature affirms:

(1) your employee’s release time for full participation in the Cohort 2023-24 and

(2) payment of **$400** to help cover costs of the program.

If you have any questions, please contact Peter Huidekoper, Jr. at 303-718-8177 or by email at [peterhdkpr@gmail.com](mailto:peterhdkpr@gmail.com).

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

Signature:

Printed Name:

Date:

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISOR/SPONSOR

Printed Name:

Supervisor’s Title:

Supervisor’s Organization/Institution:

Office Address:

1. PLEASE **EMAIL** THIS COMPLETED APPLICATION TO – Peter Huidekoper, Jr. -[peterhdkpr@gmail.com](mailto:peterhdkpr@gmail.com)

2. PLEASE **MAIL** A HARD COPY (with the necessary signatures) of pages 3 & 4 to:

Peter Huidekoper, Jr./ 8802 Piney Creek Rd. / Parker, CO 80138

**We welcome applications from a broad and diverse population. Enrollment is limited.**

**Candidates will be selected and notified within three weeks of their application coming in,**

**and no later than June 15.**

**COLORADO EDUCATION POLICY COHORT 2023-24**

***APPLICATION 2023-24 PROGRAM YEAR***

***NAME OF APPLICANT\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

*This page must be completed and signed.* ***Pages 3 & 4 should be mailed*** *to the coordinator.*

*The full application should be* ***submitted by******e-mail****, by* ***June 15****, for your application to be considered.*

**ENDORSEMENT:**

**TO THE SUPERVISOR/EMPLOYING AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE**

The employing agency will pay a fee of $400. Your signature ensures

(1) your employee’s release time for full participation in the program,

(2) your agreement to serve as a sponsor to the candidate throughout the program year, and

(3) payment of $400, **by November 1, 2023**.

Payment of $400 to the University of Colorado Denver’s School of Public Affairs for the costs in running the program.  Payment should be made payable to, **University of Colorado Denver**. (To pay via credit card, go to the payment page at this link: <https://ucdenverdata.formstack.com/forms/paf_epc>)

**Dao Vue, Finance & Accounting**

**University of Colorado Denver | School of Public Affairs**

**1380 Lawrence St., Ste. 500**

**Denver, CO  80204**

**Tel: 303-315-0149  -**[**Dao.Vue@ucdenver.edu**](mailto:Dao.Vue@ucdenver.edu)

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| --- | --- |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Name of Applicant (PRINT) | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Applicant's Signature |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Supervisor's/Sponsor's Name (PRINT) | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Supervisor's/Sponsor's Signature |

Supervisor's Title\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Division/Department \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Organization/Institution\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Office Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Office Phone\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**OPTIONAL**: The Supervisor should feel free to write a letter of support for the candidate.

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| **INSTRUCTIONS**  We ask that you submit this application electronically. Please following these steps:  Step 1: Please complete the application by typing your responses to each required item.  Step 2. Be sure to sign the endorsement page and **have your sponsor/supervisor sign that page**. Please make a hard copy of pages 3 and 4 with these signatures and then mail these two pages to this address: Peter Huidekoper Jr. /8802 Piney Creek Rd./ Parker, CO 80138. ATTENTION: Colorado EPC.  Step 3: Email the saved file as an attachment and send to the following address: [peterhdkpr@gmail.com](mailto:peterhdkpr@gmail.com) |

*The University of Colorado does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status in admission and access to, and treatment and employment in, its educational programs and activities.*

**COLORDO EDUCATION POLICY COHORT 2023-24**

***APPLICATION—DUE BY JUNE 15, 2023***

**THE COHORT 2023-24**

Participants in the Colorado Education Policy Cohort remain in their full-time positions and use their work environment as the context for examining important leadership and policy issues in their states and in the nation.

Colorado EPC requires *consistent participation* in the monthly seminars (miss no more than two). Please consider these extra demands on your time in light of your current professional and personal schedule*. If you cannot participate fully – including the two-day rural visit, please do not complete the application.*

Be sure to provide a phone number where we can reach you this summer in case we need to follow up with any questions. Thank you.

**APPLICATION AND SELECTION SCHEDULE**

MAY 14 Application period begins

By JUNE 15 Applications sent to EPC Coordinator

By JUNE 20 Cohort 2023-24 members notified of acceptance

On SEPTEMBER 10 (or TBD)

Cohort 2023-24 begins – 4:30- 7:30 at School of Public Affairs, UC-D

**COLORADO EDUCATION POLICY COHORT 2023-24**

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

|  |
| --- |
| NAME:  PROFESSIONAL TITLE:  DIVISION/DEPARTMENT:  ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION:  ADDRESS line 1  ADDRESS line 2  ADDRESS line 3  OFFICE PHONE:  E-MAIL ADDRESS that we should use in contacting you:  HOME ADDRESS:  HOME PHONE:  CELL PHONE: |

**EDUCATION (Please cite most recent institution first)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| UNIVERSITY/  COLLEGE | CITY, STATE | MAJOR FIELD | DEGREE | DATE |
|  |  |  |  |  |
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**OPTIONAL INFORMATION**

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| --- |
| RACE/ETHNICITY & SEX:  HOW DID YOU LEARN ABOUT COLORADO EPC? |

**EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE (List current position first. Do** **not substitute with your resume.)**

|  |
| --- |
| TITLE:  DATES OF EMPLOYMENT:  NAME & ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER:  DESCRIPTIONS OF DUTIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS: |
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| TITLE:  DATES OF EMPLOYMENT:  NAME & ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER:  DESCRIPTIONS OF DUTIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS: |

**FIVE QUESTIONS**

To help us get to know you – and each other\* - better. (\*If selected to be in this year’s cohort, your responses to questions #3, #4, and #5 will be shared with the others in the cohort.)

1. How would your participation in EPC benefit your organization? (A one paragraph response will do.)
2. On a scale of 1-10 (one lowest/weak to 10 highest/excellent) how would you rate Colorado’s public education? Circle one - 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
3. On the line provided, name an education policy of special concern to you (examples – you might write: early childhood education; school finance; academic achievement; accountability; school choice; school governance; school boards;/district leadership; dropout and graduation rates; rural schools and districts; teacher shortage/retention/recruitment; college readiness/remediation of high school graduates, etc.):

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Then on a scale of 1-10 (one lowest/weak to 10 highest/excellent) how would you rate how well Colorado is addressing this issue? Circle one - 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

1. Provide a thoughtful response – a paragraph or two - to one of these two prompts:

A. What policy issue in Colorado concerns you most at this time, and what major changes would you like to see—and why? (If you already have experience in bringing about such reforms, please include in your response.) Or

B. Over the next five to ten years, on what issue of education policy and practice would you like to have a significant impact – and why? What are the two or three main changes you would like to see? What role do you see yourself playing in bringing about such changes?

5. You know the phrase, “no passengers, only crew.” The success of Colorado EPC depends on participants who want to learn, but who also want to “pull their oar,” who want to give their knowledge, experience, etc. to their colleagues in the program. The more active and generous each cohort member is, the more we all benefit. What do you hope to bring to the program to make it even more meaningful and useful to the others?