



STRATEGIC DATA PROJECT

PreK–12 EDUCATION

Elevate the Use of Financial Data in Education: Become An SDP Finance Fellow

The **Strategic Data Project (SDP)** is launching the **SDP Finance Fellowship** program in partnership with the Center for Education Policy Research (CEPR) at Harvard University and the Edunomics Lab housed at the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University.

Since 2008, SDP has recruited and developed the next generation of data leaders to uncover trends, measure solutions, and communicate evidence to stakeholders in education. After working with more than 300 Fellows at over 200 education agencies, we've discovered that our partners need better support using financial data—specifically linking finance data to student outcomes. The SDP Finance Fellowship program provides a **unique opportunity for passionate quantitative researchers and data strategists who work with their organization's finance departments to use their skills to improve public education.**

EARN A CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION FINANCE

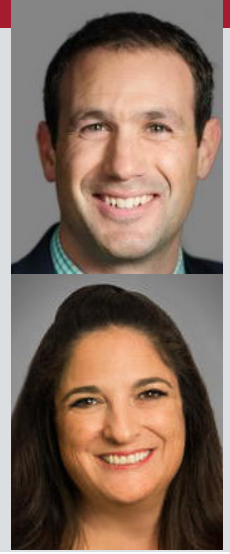
SDP Finance Fellows will earn a **Certificate in Education Finance (CEF) from Georgetown University**, an interdisciplinary certification combining finance, economics and leadership with public policy and administration. The certificate program emphasizes practical skills and application and helps participants build practical fluency in how management decisions, wide-ranging policies, and resource allocation intersect to impact student success across multiple contexts, including their own.



FELLOWS SPOTLIGHT

A New Resource-Allocation Toolkit in New Jersey. When officials in Camden City School District faced a 30 percent drop in enrollment and a 20 percent drop in its operating budget, they needed to make tough decisions about program cuts. **SDP Fellow David Hersh** created a new resource-allocation toolkit and trained staff to make priority-minded budget choices based on current and multiple-year budget projections.

Connecting Spending to Student Growth in Colorado. In Denver Public Schools, a portfolio management school system, **SDP Fellow Ruth Grindeland** linked data about how principals spend their discretionary funds along to student outcome data to identify which investments across schools yielded greater gains in student growth.



Gain Practical Skills While Making an Impact

While employed by partner organizations for two years, SDP Finance Fellows will participate a curriculum of diverse learning opportunities:

- » **SDP Workshops:** Attend six on-site, multi-day training workshops in Cambridge, Massachusetts.
- » **Virtual Learning:** Take guided online tutorials in Data Exploration, Data Visualization and more.
- » **Georgetown CEF:** Earn your certificate through a two-day residency plus distance learning.
- » **Faculty Advisor:** Work with faculty specializing in economics, education finance, and management.
- » **Working Group:** Join a virtual study group with up to three other Fellows.
- » **Capstone Project:** Explore the use of financial data in your organization to drive student outcomes.

Become an SDP Finance Fellow

We're looking for Finance Fellows from inside and outside organizations in need. Candidates could include: Professionals who currently work in a state or local education agency, charter management organization, or network of independent schools and have some quantitative experience; or, analysts with 3-5 years of experience working with data sets, employing quantitative analysis, and working in the PreK-12 sector.

Successful candidates will possess:

- » a demonstrated passion for education reform;
- » a track record of collaboration, humility, and driving change;
- » an entrepreneurial and innovative spirit;
- » an openness to relocation;
- » flexibility, adaptability, and persistence; and,
- » the ability to communicate complex information to various audiences.

SDP Finance Fellows earn a salary between \$70,000 and \$90,000 plus benefits.

READY TO APPLY? VISIT [SDP.CEPR.HARVARD.EDU/APPLY](https://sdp.cepr.harvard.edu/apply)