



NAECR Policy Fellows Program

The NAECR Policy Fellows Program involves a series of informal conversations between First Five Nebraska and NAECR early childhood researchers at the University of Nebraska.

Objectives

- To educate early childhood researchers on policy (local, state, federal) processes, impacts, and relationships to research.
- To provide the policy community with insight into the University of Nebraska's latest early childhood research.
- To create meaningful, bi-directional connections and collaborations between the research and policy communities in order to develop a policy-relevant research agenda and enrich early childhood experiences.

Participants

NAECR will select up to four early childhood researchers to participate in the program. They will be selected based upon their research activities and potential implications for policy, as well as their interest in the program and their willingness to make a commitment to attend program events. Participants will be recruited at the beginning of the Fall 2019 semester, with the list of participants finalized by September 2019.

First Five Nebraska will participate in the conversations and provide insight into policy process, impact, and the relationship between policy and research.

All participants will be expected to:

- Attend a total of four conversations, approximately 2 hours in length, including a session (e.g., panel, networking session, presentation) at the Summit on Research in Early Childhood in April 2020;
- Engage in and contribute to an active, ongoing, and supportive dialogue about the connections between policy and research; and
- Provide feedback on the program.

Timeline:

The program will run from September 2019 to May 2020 and will include a total of four conversations.

Conversation 1 September/October 2019	Kick-off Conversation
Conversation 2 November 2019	TBD

Conversation 3 February 2020	TBD
Conversation 4 April 29, 2020	Summit on Research in Early Childhood First Five Nebraska and NAECR participants will take part in an event (e.g., panel, networking session) during the Summit.

Evaluation and Sustainability:

NAECR will actively seek feedback from program participants and First Five Nebraska to evaluate program progress, successes, and challenges.

If the program is deemed successful, it could become an annual series with new participants cycling through the program each year.