



# Meeting Agenda

- Technical Remarks
- Introductions
- EMERG Program Overview
- Application Components and Tips
- Q&A

# Technical Remarks

- We will respond to questions at the end of the webinar. On the bottom of your screen is a Q&A box – you may type a question in there at any point during the presentation.
- The webinar is being recorded and will be posted on our website sometime next week.
- For technical support, please type your issue or question into the Q&A box and someone will assist you.



# Equity in Math Education Research Grants Program (EMERG)

## Executive Board Members

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University of Illinois Chicago (Co-Chair)

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**Carol Lee,**  
Northwestern University (Ex-Officio)

NAEd Staff:  
**Abigail Bell,** Director, Special Projects  
**Daniel Garza,** Research Associate  
**Greg White,** Executive Director



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# Program Rationale

- Recent studies have highlighted the inadequacy of prior research in addressing persistent inequalities experienced by learners from underserved communities. They have called for increased attention to issues of racialization, power, identity, culture, and language.
- Gates Foundation prioritizing U.S. K-12 portfolio on math education
- Awarded a grant to the NAEd to develop an early career research program to delve into the intersection of these issues

***For the purpose of the EMERG Program, the focal students and communities include African-American, Latine, Indigenous communities and those experiencing persistent inter-generational poverty.***

# EMERG Program Goals

- 1) Foster the professional development of a cadre of **early career scholars** whose research focuses on fostering successful mathematics learning, development, and participation for historically underserved students from African American, Latine, Indigenous, and low-income communities.
- 2) Cultivate a **community** of emergent, mid-career, and senior scholars who will usher in new approaches to mathematics education research that will lead to fundamental transformations in the experiences of target learner communities.
- 3) Develop a **conceptual framework** that guides future research and leads to forms of mathematics education that are worthy of all students but especially those that have been underserved by existing structures.
- 4) Strengthen **the evidence informing strategies** for mathematics learning for students from these communities, through both individual EMERG Scholars' projects and the full community's conceptual framework.

# EMERG Community

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## *Executive Board:*

- 9 members
- Expertise in math education
- Responsible for conceptual framework, program development, selection of scholars, professional development activities
- Make final decisions

## *Advisory Committee:*

- 50 members
- Interdisciplinary
- Consult on project components, including conceptual framework, selection of scholars
- Mentor scholars

## *EMERG Scholars*

- 10 early career scholars
- Each lead an individual project with mentoring support from Executive Board and Advisory Committee
- Individual projects will contribute to larger conceptual framework
- Attend four in-person convenings



# Conceptual Framework

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*The EMERG community will create a robust and evolving conceptual framework to guide research in mathematics education focused on supporting equitable and ambitious mathematical experiences for students from historically underserved communities.*

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Develop and interrogate a broader conception of what contributes to robust learning in mathematics, drawing on emergent findings from rigorous and analytic work that informs our understanding of human learning and development.

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This framework will be informed by the full EMERG Community, as it reflects collectively on its ongoing work, including the research projects of the EMERG Scholars – as that research is planned and as it takes place.

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We hope this framework will help chart a research agenda for the field.



# Eligibility for EMERG Program

- Received PhD or EdD no earlier than January 1, 2016
- Tenured or non-tenured
- Based at U.S. institution
- Proximate, lived experience with communities of interest
- Commitment to issues of ambitious and equitable engagement with mathematics

*Willingness to receive critical feedback on their preliminary proposal from experts inside and outside of mathematics education and refine it with support from the EMERG Community*

# EMERG Program Awards

- **10 grants of \$113,000**
  - *Awarded as a subcontract between NAEd and PI's institution*
  - 10% indirect costs (~\$11,000)
  - \$2,000 for airfare to 4 in-person convenings (other travel costs covered by NAEd)
  - \$100,000 for research expenses
  - Applicants will submit draft budget outlining projected research expenses

# Support for EMERG Scholars

## Dedicated Mentoring

Each EMERG Scholar is paired with one mentor with expertise in their project topic for monthly check-ins.

## Group Advising

Each EMERG Scholar will meet with a team of two-three interdisciplinary advisors for a group mentoring session quarterly

## Peer Support

EMERG Scholars will self-select into smaller peer mentoring clusters based on their project themes

## Full-Group Convening

The entire EMERG community will convene for a collective meeting to discuss where we are, theoretical framing, and project updates from scholars.

# What makes EMERG different?

## EMERG

- Apply with an idea
- Subject matter specific to U.S. K-12 math education
- Mentoring happens before beginning the work – proposal is refined
- Operates as a research grant – time off not required

## NAEd/Spencer Postdoc

- Apply with full-fledged project
- Encompasses all fields, locations, grade levels
- Mentoring happens after you have begun the work
- Operates as a fellowship – required to take leave from teaching

# Online Application

- CV
- Institutional Letter of Commitment
- Project Description/Narrative
- Personal Statement
- Example of Past Research
- Reference Letters (2)
- Budget Template
- List of current commitments

The screenshot shows the NAEd Application Portal login page. At the top left is the NAEd logo. To its right is a navigation bar with links: HOME, MY ACCOUNT, NAED/SPENCER DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM, NAED/SPENCER POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM, and NAED EQUITY IN MATH EDUCATION RESEARCH GRANTS (EMERG) PROGRAM. Below the navigation bar, on the left, is a login form with the text 'Login to Complete an Application or to Access Judging Panel'. The form includes fields for 'Email Address \*' and 'Password \*', a 'remember me' checkbox, a 'lost password?' link, and a 'Login' button. On the right side of the page, there is a welcome message: 'Welcome to the National Academy of Education (NAEd) Application Portal.' followed by instructions to use the navigation bar and contact info@naeducation.org for questions.

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HOME MY ACCOUNT NAED/SPENCER DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM NAED/SPENCER POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM  
NAED EQUITY IN MATH EDUCATION RESEARCH GRANTS (EMERG) PROGRAM

Login to Complete an Application or to Access Judging Panel

Email Address \*

Password \*

remember me [lost password?](#)

Login

**Welcome to the National Academy of Education (NAEd) Application Portal.**

Please use the above navigation bar to select your program and begin your application.  
Please direct all questions to [info@naeducation.org](mailto:info@naeducation.org).

# Online Application

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- Confirm you are applying for the correct program: ***Equity in Math Education Research Grants Program (EMERG)***
- Deadline: **September 28, 2023, 8:00pm Eastern Time**
- Complete all fields.
- Upload all required documents in PDF format.
- Talk to your reference letter writers in advance of preparing an application.
- You can save and return to your application up until the deadline.
- You should receive e-mail updates when you start an application, as well as when you have submitted your application.

# Application Components

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## Project Narrative

- Problem description/policy issue to be addressed
- Compelling nature of the issue/problem
- Theoretical or conceptual framework for the research
- Brief review of relevant research/policy literature
- Research question
- How does this work contribute to the field?
- Description of study methodology

## Personal Statement

- What led to your interest in math education research?
- Your personal and professional history and prior engagement with the target communities.
- Your willingness to participate in the EMERG intellectual community and to have their work-in-progress evolve as a result.

## Reference Letters

- Two references
- Letters should focus on:
  - Applicant's promise as a scholar in the field of math education
  - Strength of the preliminary project proposal.



# Application Tips

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- Audience:
  - Academics in education research – both the Advisory Committee and Executive Board
  - Multiple disciplines represented in reviewer pool
  - Reviewers are both curious and questioning
  - Reviewers will be close to applicant's area of work (but not necessarily in the applicant's field)
  - ***Try to avoid jargon so the proposal is easily understood by a broad audience***

# Application Tips

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- Evaluation Criteria:
  - Compelling nature/significance of the research question
  - Intellectual rigor of the proposed project
  - Intellectual breadth, depth, and richness of the project
  - Intellectual humility of the applicant
  - Contribution to the greater EMERG community

# Application Tips

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- Remember you are joining a conversation: Where are you entering it? What are you bringing to that conversation?
- Show that you understand the history of relevant ideas and work.
- Demonstrate your connection to the target communities. How will your work support learners in those communities?
- Explain how your study could contribute to our understanding of math education-related issues.
- Talk to your references early – it is essential they understand the nuances of this program when submitting their letters.

*EMERG Scholars will have their initial project proposals refined through mentoring and interaction with the EMERG community. Thus the application – particularly the project description – can include “preliminary” elements that are expected to evolve as the EMERG research community takes shape, grapples with the issues raised by the proposals, and develops conceptual approaches.*

# Important Dates

- **September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023:** Deadline for Applications
- **October/November 2023:** Applicant interviews
- **December 2023:** EMERG Scholars selected and announced.
- **March 6-8, 2024:** In-Person Convening: Washington, DC
- **June 2024/September 2024:** First award payment disbursed to institution.
- **November 6-8, 2024:** In-Person Convening: Washington, DC
- **June 2025/September 2025:** Second award payment disbursed to institution.
- **Fall 2025:** In-Person Convening: Washington, DC (dates TBD)
- **June 2026** In-Person Convening: (dates and location TBD)
- **June 2026:** Grant Concludes

# Questions?

For more information and  
to start an application:  
[www.naeducation.org](http://www.naeducation.org)

For questions:  
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