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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Research Associate

2019 – Present

#### WestEd, Los Alamitos, CA

Conducting qualitative research for state and local education agencies through research projects and reports on resource allocation/fiscal systems, equity and accountability within the K-12 education system. Managing projects, including building & overseeing budgets, timelines and deliverable schedules for multiple team members. Conducting quantitative analyses on education funding systems to assess equity and solvency using STATA software and advanced Excel statistical methods. Key Projects & Publications include:

- Principal Investigator, [Fiscal Barriers to P-3 Inclusion for Students with Disabilities](#)
- Contributing Author & finance team researcher, [California Master Plan for Early Learning and Care](#)
- Contributing Author, [5 Strategies for Getting Federal Relief Aid to Students Who Need It Most](#)

### Associate Policy Analyst, Independent Analysis Unit

2017 – 2018

#### Los Angeles Unified School District, CA

Principal analyst and writer for several major projects, including reports to the LAUSD Board of Education modeling distribution formulas of Title I grant funds to LAUSD schools. Managed multiple projects and timelines, including designing and implementing a project management template for the department. Extracted and consolidated data from multiple online dashboards into STATA for analysis.

### Research Assistant/Consultant, University of Southern California

2016 – 2017

Worked as part of a 9-member policy review team, in support of a longitudinal study of collective bargaining and union behavior within California's K-12 Education system. Analyzed school district policy documents, including collective bargaining agreements, to assess data trends and discrepancies for over 100 districts.

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## EDUCATION & FELLOWSHIPS

2022 – 2027 (In progress) Ph.D., Education Policy, UC San Diego, San Diego, CA

2022 UCSD EDS Diversity Fellowship

2022 Research Affiliate Program, Center for Racial Equity in Education (CREED), 2022 Cohort

2021 Certificate in Education Finance, Georgetown University, Washington, DC

2019 Education Pioneers Impact Fellow, 2019 Cohort

2017 MA, Public Administration, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

2013 BA, Social Psychology, Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA

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## OTHER PUBLICATIONS (NOT PEER-REVIEWED)

Fuller, B., Diaz, J., Hoang, M.K. (2023). Vietnam Preschools in Global Context: Policy Innovations and Local Implementation. Prepared for the Vietnam Ministry of Education in Partnership with The World Bank Group.

Valdez, A., Hashmi, S., Diaz, J. (2023). Advancing and Sustaining Student and Staff Well-being Initiatives: A Resource Guide for States. Council of Chief State School Officers.

Lathan, J. & Diaz, J. (2023). Driver Research Brief: Policy – A research brief to maximize the success of African American male students. Kingmakers of Oakland.

Romer, N., Valdez, A., Alcalá, L., Diaz, J., Gurrola, E., McClellan, P., McCullough, S. (2022) Improving Coordination and Access to Comprehensive School-Based Mental Health Services in California: A Preliminary Landscape Analysis. WestEd.

Hickox, I., Arredondo, S., Diaz, J., Knotts, M. (2022). Early Childhood Education and Care in Arizona Context, Data, and Resources for Municipal Leaders. Prepared for the Arizona Mayor’s Education Roundtable.

Diaz, J., Harder, A., Jacobson, A., Knotts, M., Valdez, A., & Willis, J. (2021). Utah State Board of Education funding policy focus groups: Findings and recommendations. WestEd.

Diaz, J., & Ennis, J. (2021). North Carolina Smart Start: Needs Formula Review. San Francisco, CA: WestEd.

Jacobson, A., Silverstein, J., Willis, J., Diaz, J., Fermanich, M., Piscatelli, J., Lewis, R., McClellan, P., Durodoye, R. (2021). Utah Funding Study: Phase 2 Report. WestEd, Augenblick, Palaich and Associates.

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## PRESENTATIONS

Diaz, J. (04/2023). “How school districts interpret and implement federal requirements for meaningful consultation in fiscal decision-making during the COVID – 19 Pandemic”. Presented at the American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.