



## **IDRA José A. Cárdenas School Finance Fellows Program**

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**IDRA**  
— Transforming Education

## **J. Toufic Chahín Named 2024 IDRA José A. Cárdenas School Finance Fellow**

### **Chahín will Examine Inequities Impacting Students in Charter Schools**

San Antonio, January 22, 2024 – IDRA has named University of Texas at Austin doctoral student J. Toufic Chahín as our 2024 [IDRA José A. Cárdenas School Finance Fellow](#).

The fellows program honors the memory of IDRA founder, [Dr. José Angel Cárdenas](#). Since its founding in 1973, IDRA has been at the forefront of legislative and litigation efforts to achieve school funding equity. The goal of the fellowship is to engage the nation's most promising researchers in investigating school finance solutions that secure equity and excellence for all public school students.

Dr. Cárdenas' life was dedicated to his vision that every child deserves an excellent education, which requires strong instructional programs and school finance equity," said Celina Moreno, IDRA President & CEO. "We are so pleased that J. Toufic Chahín will advance research that informs IDRA's work and honors the legacy of our founder."

Chahín is a doctoral student at the University of Texas at Austin studying education policy and planning within the College of Education. Coming from a family that valued education as a transformative force, he was inspired by his grandparents, who originally worked as migrant laborers, and his parents, who instilled the importance of educational opportunities. Following



in the footsteps of a century of Texas educators in his family, he became a high school math teacher for seven years before pursuing further graduate studies.

Chahin's research uses advanced statistical methodologies to highlight inequities in public education for under-represented students, specifically in how they are connected to the marketization of education as found in charter school systems.

His collaborative work with IDRA as a fellow will focus on using quantitative analysis to identify inequities affecting students in charter schools in contrast to their traditional public school classmates, particularly in segregation, student achievement and college readiness.

## Previous José A. Cárdenas School Finance Fellows



### Dr. Vanessa A. Sansone

Dr. Sansone conducted a comparative case study analysis of *CARES Act* spending patterns among selected HSIs within Texas.



### Dr. David G. Martínez

Dr. Martínez analyzed South Carolina school finance priorities in high-proportion Latino districts during COVID-19.



### Dr. Cristóbal Rodríguez

Dr. Rodríguez analyzed the relationship of school finance policies and practices and their influence on equitable access to college readiness courses.



### Dr. Marialena Rivera

Dr. Rivera examined in five states factors contributing to expanded state investment in equitable public school facilities and how those factors can be leveraged to encourage states that make minimal investments to expand support for facilities funding.



### Dr. Oscar Jimenez-Castellanos

Dr. Jimenez-Castellanos examined the amount of supplemental funding above the base funding required to effectively implement appropriate services for middle and high school emergent bilingual students in Texas.





IDRA is an independent, non-profit organization. Our mission is to achieve equal educational opportunity for every child through strong public schools that prepare all students to access and succeed in college.

[Reach Out To Us](#)

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