

# Student Upward Mobility Initiative 2025 Request for Proposals: Informational Webinars

## Speaker Biographies

**Karishma Furtado** is a senior research associate in the Center on Equity and Community Impact within the Urban Institute's Research to Action Lab. In that role she works to develop research, policy, and practice that enable widespread well-being, especially within the education and health sectors. She is the co-lead of the Student Upward Mobility Initiative, which seeks to support K-12 research and system redesign to catalyze the long-term success of students from backgrounds of economic disadvantage. Before joining Urban, Karishma was a founding staff member and research director of Forward Through Ferguson, a St. Louis-based organization focused on systems change to achieve racial equity. She holds bachelor's degrees in biology and public policy from the University of Chicago and master's and doctorate degrees in public health with a specialization in biostatistics and epidemiology from Washington University in St. Louis.

**Maggie Reeves** is the director of K-12 education for the Work, Education, and Labor Division at the Urban Institute, where she builds and drives impactful initiatives with her colleagues. She is the coprincipal investigator and project director for the Student Upward Mobility Initiative, which develops, identifies, and validates measures of students' skills and competencies that drive their later economic mobility. Previously, Reeves was the founding senior director of the Georgia Policy Labs at Georgia State University, where she built the organization over its first five years and led its impact, strategy, partnerships, team, and integrated data system. She also was the senior adviser for research strategy for the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies. Her roles in creating evidence-based policies to improve people's lives have spanned positions in academia, the state executive branch, and the state judicial branch over the past 15 years. She received her bachelor's degree in women's studies from Emory University and her master's degree in public administration from the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University.