

## Contributing Author

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Dr. Maria V. Balderrama is a bilingual, multicultural educator and researcher with more than 25 years of service in public education and a native of California's Calexico/Mexicali Valleys, where she attended public schools. Dr. Balderrama works with diverse youth, their families, teachers, and school administrators. Her teaching career began with her work as a high school tutor during the desegregation of Boston's public schools.

Dr. Balderrama earned degrees from Wellesley College, San Jose State University, and Stanford University. After receiving her doctorate in education from Stanford, Dr. Balderrama taught and researched immigrant students in middle schools as a fellow at UCLA.

Dr. Balderrama presents her research nationally and internationally, addressing equitable conditions for teaching and learning and accentuating teacher preparation and student engagement as fundamental to academic excellence. Dr. Balderrama's applied research is documented in numerous journals, books, and encyclopedias. Her recent book *Teacher Performance Expectations for Educating English Learners* (with L.T. Díaz-Rico) is frequently cited and widely recognized for its contributions to the field.



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