

PRISE

Policy and Research Intensive Special Educators

Doctoral Training Program

Mason's PhD in Education with a specialization in Special Education prepares leaders in the field focused on research, teaching, and policy.

Now, 13 doctoral candidates, 6 at Mason and 7 at VCU, will have their tuition and other expenses covered through the OSEP-funded PRISE program.

The PRISE Doctoral Training Program is a four-year, collaborative project between Virginia Commonwealth University and George Mason University and will allow doctoral students to develop skills needed to:

- Fill faculty roles in teaching and research universities
- Lead the preparation of the next generation of special educators to improve the integration of evidence-based teaching and instruction
- Conduct research on factors impacting the teacher shortage using rigorous research methodology and disseminating findings through research- and policy-focused outlets
- Advocate for the development of national, state, and local policies that will ultimately improve the lives of children, youth, and adults with disabilities

PRISE scholars will have a full-time course load and participate in an internship 20 hours per week. The internship experiences will be facilitated by faculty mentors in partnership with national organizations and government agencies.

The program begins fall 2020 and requires four years to complete.

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE

- Full-time tuition, all student fees, and health insurance for four years
- Stipend of \$32,000 annually
- Onboarding package that includes a computer, tablet, and supplies
- Travel funds to support research and scholarly activities
- Relocation support (available on an as-needed basis)

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Ranking

In Special Education Programs
— U.S. News & World Report

kihd.gmu.edu/leadership-grants

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APPLICATION

- Reach out to Dr. Sarah A. Nagro at snagro@gmu.edu to learn more about the program and express interest.
- Apply online for the PhD in Education program at education.gmu.edu/phd by January 15, 2020.
- As part of your online application, indicate your interest in the PRISE program by adding "PRISE" to the other option of the Applicant Cohort field.
- For questions regarding the application, contact the College of Education and Human Development Office of Admissions at cehdgrad@gmu.edu or 703-993-2892.

MASON CONTACT

- Dr. Sarah A. Nagro at snagro@gmu.edu

VCU CONTACT

- Dr. Colleen Thoma at cathoma@vcu.edu
- Dr. LaRon Scott at scottla@vcu.edu



VCU School of Education

PHD IN EDUCATION PRISE PROGRAM OF STUDY

Proposed schedule; courses will be final at orientation

General Culture | 3 credits

- EDUC 800 . Ways of Knowing

Research Methods | 15 credits

- EDRS 810 . Ways of Knowing
- EDRS 811 . Quantitative Methods in Educational Research
- EDRS 812 . Qualitative Methods in Educational Research
- EDRS 823 . Advanced Research Methods in Single Subject/Case Design or
- EDRS 832 . Document Analysis and Archival Research
- EDRS 824 . Mixed Methods Research

Primary Specialization: Special Education | 21 credits

- EDSE 843 . Leading Change in Special Education and Disability Policy
- EDSE 844 . Current Issues in Special Education
- EDSE 845 . Personnel Preparation Programs in Special Education
- EDSE 846 . Assessment, Evaluation, and Instrumentation
- EDSE 847 . Problem Solving in Contemporary Initiatives in Special Education
- EDSE 885 . Writing Grants
- EDSE 890 . Doctoral Internship in Education

Secondary Specializations: Teacher Education and Policy | 18 credits

- EDUC 850 . The Study of Teaching
- EDUC 853 . World Perspectives of Teacher Education
- EDUC 876 . Teacher Development and Education Policy
- EDUC 994 . Advanced Internship in Education
- EDUC 870 . Education Policy: Process, Context, and Politics
- EDRS 897 . Special Topics in Research Methods

Dissertation Proposal and Research | 21 credits

- EDUC 998 . Doctoral Dissertation Proposal
- EDUC 999 . Doctoral Dissertation Research
- EDUC 999 . Doctoral Dissertation Research

As a part of the program, students will have the opportunity to attend seminars, workshops, and internship experiences at George Mason University, Virginia Commonwealth University, and national conferences. Students will learn from leading scholars and policy experts including Dr. Jane West, Dr. Laurie deBettencourt, Dr. Jackie Rodriguez, Dr. Colleen Thoma, Dr. LaRon Scott, Dr. Jason Chow, and expert faculty at Mason.

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