



PRISE Grant

Earn Your Ph.D. in Special Education

Preparing Research Intensive Special Educators (PRISE) is a collaborative grant project with between Virginia Commonwealth University and George Mason University, through the Office of Special Education Programs (U.S. Department of Education) to prepare future faculty with expertise in research, teacher education certification and accreditation, teacher education preparation and policy.

Our PRISE Scholars will be the **first responders** to translate and effectively teach, conduct new research, and learn from experts in the field new knowledge to answer questions relating to the teacher shortage.

- **13** person cohort (**6** at GMU and **7** at VCU)
- Generous annual stipend
- Tuition and fees throughout full-time, four-year program
- Additional technology and professional development travel funding
- Support for relocation available upon request and approval

Application Requirements

- Complete all application requirements for the Ph.D. in Special Education at VCU or GMU
- 3 or more years of teaching experience
- U.S. citizenship status
- Interview with institutional representative and submission of required graduate funding application



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Program Highlights

- Opportunities to learn from the **leading teacher shortage policy experts** including Dr. Jane West
- Partnership with the federally funded innovative teacher preparation centers including the **CEEDAR Center, AACTE, and IRIS Center**
- Engagement with renowned teachers residency program, RTR, housed in the Center for Teacher Leadership, and other VCU/School of Education Affiliated Centers
- Connection to multiple teacher preparation pathways, including undergraduate, innovative early childhood cross-disciplinary initiatives, alternative pathways and residency models that engage with high needs populations across the state
- Join the VCU R1 research university population that includes medical, policy, social science, and arts experts to engage in cross-disciplinary research and policy advocacy



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