Western Carolina University | College of Education and Allied Professions

Available Funding Sources for Special Education Graduate Education Majors

SCHOLARSHIPS

Invest in Teachers Scholarship Program

For new graduate students, the ***Invest in Teachers Scholarship Program*** covers in-state tuition and fees for your first graduate-level course. Eligibility requirements include in-state residency, admission to the WCU Graduate School in an alternative licensure or education degree program, enrollment in a program course during first term Fall term, application to the Invest in Teachers Scholarship Program.

College of Education and Allied Professions Scholarships

The College of Education and Allied Professions has a variety of scholarships available. Click here for a complete listing.

Non-WCU Scholarships

Check out other great scholarship resources!

For more information on types of scholarships available, visit: http://www.scholarships.wcu.edu

Sharon Dole Scholarship

The Sharon Dole Endowed Scholarship is specifically for graduate students enrolled in the special education program with a concentration in Gifted, Creative, and Innovative Education. Click here for information on how to apply.

GRANTS

TEACH Grant

WCU is a TEACH Grant partner. The U.S. Department of Education's Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant (TEACH Grant) Program provides funds to students who are completing or who plan to complete coursework that is required to begin a career in teaching, and who agree to teach full-time for at least four years as a **highly qualified teacher**; at a school or educational service agency (ESA) **servicing low-income students**; *and* In a **high-need field**. The four years of teaching must be completed within eight years after you complete or otherwise cease to be enrolled in the program for which you received a TEACH Grant.

Need-Based Grants

You may also be eligible for the North Carolina Need-Based Tuition Grant and WCU Tuition Grant, which are need based grants.

SCHOOL OF TEACHING AND LEARNING
100 Reid / 1 University Drive / Cullowhee, NC 28723 / 828.227.7108 tel / 828.227.7645 fax / www.wcu.edu

WORK STUDY

Through the Federal Work-Study Program, you can earn money while gaining valuable work experience. As a work-study employee, typically you will work on campus and receive a regular paycheck. Work-study does not apply directly toward your tuition bill.

TUITION AWARDS

Graduate Tuition Awards for students in graduate Distance programs are merit-based. These applications are usually available from approximately February 15 through April 20. For more information, contact the WCU Graduate School office at 828.227.7398 or grad@wcu.edu.

LOANS

Perkins Loan

Perkins Loans are low-interest loans awarded to students with exceptional financial need. Principal and interest are deferred until nine months after graduation, with a fixed 5% interest rate. Perkins Loans require a specific type of Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note.

PEO Educational Loan

P.E.O. Educational Loan Funds are loans offered at 2% to female students who graduated from a Haywood or Jackson Co., NC high school and are within two years of graduating from an accredited school with either a Bachelor's, Master's or Doctoral degree. More information on the loan requirements can be found at www.peointernational.org/elf-eligibility-requirements or by contacting Marilyn Webb at 828.400.0009 or webbmj@bellsouth.net

Want information on other types of loans? Check out federal and private loans.

MILITARY ASSISTANCE

Active military personnel, veterans and dependents may be eligible for educational military benefits. Western Carolina University's Office of Military Student Services can assist students in identifying and completing the correct applications.

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TRAVEL AWARDS

The Chancellor's Student Travel Grant Series and the WCU Graduate Student Association provides travel awards of up to $500 each semester to graduate students who will represent Western Carolina University at regional and national conferences.

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

Graduate assistantships are available to a limited number of well-qualified graduate students. With an assistantship, you receive a monthly stipend for fulfilling teaching, research, or professional development duties in addition to your graduate coursework. Stipends vary from $8,000 to $10,500 per year, based on a 20-hour-per-week work assignment. -

FUNDING FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

Graduate students have access to a variety of funding resources. Visit here for more information.

For more financial opportunities, please visit the WCU Financial Aid website, http://finaid.wcu.edu.