



OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME: EARN YOUR DOCTORATE

With a Specialization in the Education of Students who have a Sensory Impairment

(Blind/Visually Impaired, Deaf/Heard of Hearing, or Deafblindness)

We are pleased to announce the funding of the National Leadership Consortium in Sensory Disabilities (NLCSD) by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs. The consortium consists of 24 universities with doctoral programs that have an emphasis in one or more of the three sensory impairment areas: blind/visually impaired, deaf/hard of hearing, and deafblindness.

NLCSD will provide a unique doctoral study experience for up to 25 qualified individuals committed to the education of infants, toddlers, children and youth who are deaf/hard of hearing, blind/visually impaired or deafblind. Full tuition and a minimum of \$20,000 annual living stipend will be provided to NLCSD Fellows for up to four years of full-time on campus study while they earn their doctorates at Consortium Universities. Fellowships are available to US citizens who must first be accepted into a doctoral program at one of the Consortium Universities (listed below) and then be selected by the NLCSD Consortium through a rigorous application procedure. One national cohort of students will be selected to begin studies in the fall of 2010.

The NLCSD Fellows will participate together in a structured added-value enrichment program in addition to their individual Universities' Doctoral Programs of study in Special Education. The added-value NLCSD Research Based Conceptual Model will supplement the research curriculum provided at the NLCSD parent Universities. During the Fellow's studies, there will be an ongoing, on-line asynchronous, wiki based research forum which will provide opportunities to critically examine research issues in the field, engage in discussion with faculty and researchers across the country, and engage collaboratively in designing, implementing and disseminating research.

The enrichment program will be designed by the NLCSD University Consortium with input from a Public Advisors Council (PAC) that includes national professional, consumer and parent organizations representing the three sensory disability areas as

well as other national professional organizations in higher education and special education. The enrichment program will include opportunities to participate in research and issue-based seminars through, interactive web technologies and resources, opportunities for externships, face-to-face meetings and national conferences. NLCSD will offer a once in a lifetime opportunity to pursue individual doctoral studies and be part of a larger collaborative community of learners.

Participating NLCSD Consortium Members 11-05-09

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U.S. Office of Special Education Programs

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