Supporting Educators’ Academic Literacies and Enhanced Discourse (SEALED)

School of Education and Human Development
Department of Teaching and Learning
U.S. Department of Education Funding

• Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) grant competition

• UM SEHD, Department of Teaching and Learning and Miami-Dade County Public Schools
  – Mary A. Avalos, Wendy Cavendish, Luciana de Oliveira, Ana Gutierrez, Wandarece Ruan (PIs)
  – Oct. 1, 2017-Sept. 30, 2020
  – $6,148,903
SEALED Project Goals

• SEALED aims to increase:
  – 1) the number of diverse and highly qualified teachers serving high-need populations (H-NPs) in high-needs secondary schools (grades 6-12) to improve academic achievement and engagement in school and community;
  – 2) teachers’ knowledge and use of targeted instructional practices for H-NPS; and
  – 3) to support and enhance teachers’ facilitation of their H-NPs’ engagement with school and community.
SEALED Outcomes

- SEALED will:
  - Provide 95% tuition scholarships to 120 teachers to enroll and earn M.S. Ed. degrees in one of three UM programs:
    - Education and Social Change (http://sites.education.miami.edu/education-social-change/)
    - Special Education (http://sites.education.miami.edu/special-education-m-s-ed/)
    - Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) (http://sites.education.miami.edu/teaching-english-to-speakers-of-other-languages-tesol-m-s-ed/)
SEALED Outcomes-cont’d.

• To increase H-NPs academic achievement, the SEALED Master’s program courses will emphasize:
  – academic literacies (reading, writing, speaking, listening) across content areas for H-NPs;
  – engagement of H-NPs with school and community;
  – data-driven instruction;
  – culturally responsive instruction for student engagement; and
  – problem-based learning driven by the Florida Standards
SEALED Outcomes–cont’d.

• SEALED will empirically investigate M.S. Ed. programs as a source of professional development for teachers serving H-NPs
  – 60 teachers/cohort
    • Cohort 1: Enrolls in M.S. Ed. August 2018-June 2020
    • Cohort 2: Enrolls in M.S. Ed. January 2019-August 2020
  – Half of each cohort (30 teachers) will be randomly selected to receive job-embedded support (e.g., coaching) from M-DCPS Curriculum Support Specialists;
  – The teachers not selected will receive coaching during the programs’ final, culminating project (Summer 2020)
SEALED Tuition Scholarship
Each M.S. Ed. program = 30 credits
– 95% tuition discount for SEALED participation

Year 1 Enrollment: August 2018-June 2020:
• Regular UM Graduate Tuition for 2018-19 = $2,019/credit hour
• SEALED rate of tuition, 2018-19 = $100.95/credit hour

Year 2 Enrollment: August 2019-June 2020:
• Regular UM Graduate Tuition for 2019-20 = $2,080/credit hour
• SEALED rate of tuition, 2019-2020 = $104.00/credit hour

Please note there are additional UM fees each semester (see upcoming slide) and required books to purchase/rent for courses, which are not covered by SEALED project funds.
Additional UM Fees

• See “Part-time (1-8 credit hours)” and “Summer 2019” for other required or optional fees charged each semester and summer session upon enrollment at


for graduate students. These fees are typically increased slightly each year; therefore, the listed fees will likely change somewhat for 2019-20.
Projected Timeline for Master’s Degree Completion  
(number of credits/semester or summer session)

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<th>Cohort</th>
<th>Fall 2018</th>
<th>Spr 2019</th>
<th>SSA 2019</th>
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<th>Fall 2019</th>
<th>Spr 2020</th>
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<td>1: 60 teachers</td>
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* Summer Academy

2018-19: $100.95/credit  
2019-20: $104.00/credit

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
Who is eligible to apply for the SEALED M.S. Ed. scholarship and project activities?

- Any secondary teacher (grades 6-12) serving high-needs populations, including ESE or ESOL (levels 1-5) or low-SES (Title I) students in a M-DCPS school site;

- Preference will be given to teachers:
  - of core subject areas (English, Social Studies, Science, Mathematics); and
  - teaching in Title I schools
What are the expectations for participation?

– Choose at least one focal class (i.e., one period) to complete graduate course assignments within a self-contained teaching context;

– Choose six focal students within the focal class to monitor their progress over each academic year;

– Teach during three scheduled video-recorded classroom observations (beginning, middle, and end of M.S. Ed. program);

– Partner teach with a fellow SEALED teacher in a two-week Summer Academy as part of the final class and culminating program requirement
  • Cohort 1: June, 2020
  • Cohort 2: July, 2020
• If randomly selected (n=30 teachers per cohort), you would receive job-embedded, coaching support and be expected to:
  – Schedule and actively participate in coaching and feedback sessions with SEALED’s M-DCPS Curriculum Support Specialists throughout the 2-year Master’s program;
  – Coach partner teachers during the 2-week Summer Academy for selected lessons;
Grad School Commitment

- There is a required summer commitment.
- Graduate studies typically require 5 hours of reading for each hour of class (approximately 11 hours per week/6 credit hours enrolled).
- Time management skills are important as projects and papers are often assigned early on, but not due until the last weeks of class.
- UM faculty will expect you to take your courses and learning seriously, as you would take your students’ learning seriously.
What is needed to apply?

• A completed application for graduate studies to enroll in the Education and Social Change, TESOL, or Special Education M.S. Ed. programs (see individual program websites for application information).
  • In addition to what is listed as required for each program’s application process, please include:
    • A current resume;
    • A Statement of Purpose that includes immediate and future career goals, and how the SEALED M.S. Ed. project might assist in meeting those goals.
Overview of Application Process

Online applications must be **complete and submitted with all supporting documents by application deadlines**

- **3 letters of recommendation** submitted electronically via the UM CollegeNet application system *(if you are a recent graduate, at least two should be from former professors or those familiar with academic performance and address your qualifications for graduate study; one may be from a school principal, grade level or department chair, community organization for which you have volunteered, etc. Do not request a letter from a peer, family member, or a teacher colleague.)*

- **Official transcripts** (sealed envelope via snail mail to SEHD Graduate Studies, ATTN: Lois Heffernan, 1507 Levante Ave., Coral Gables, FL 33146; or digital via email to lheffernan@Miami.edu) from all postsecondary institutions attended (not necessary for UM transcripts)

- **Statement of Purpose** (write as Word document, then copy/paste in online application under “Statement of Purpose”), *including how SEALED will benefit your teaching and career* (Note: Ed and Social Change apps do not require a response to the essay prompt, as directed on the website for applicants that are not applying for the SEALED project).

- **Current Resume**

- **GRE or GRE Waiver application:**
  - GRE established admission criteria = >50%ile, quantitative and verbal sections; 4 on Writing (Analytic) portion
  - When submitting the GRE registration form, UM’s institution code is 5815 and the program/department codes are: TESL=3907; Special Ed=3705; Education and Social Change =3999
  - GRE Waiver application is available for those with three or more years of teaching experience; the application will be scored and you will be notified if your application for the waiver was approved
Online Application for Admission
CollegeNet

https://www.applyweb.com/aw?mgred

SEALED M.S. Ed. Application Deadline:
Cohort 2: All supporting documents and online application, plus application fee, must be received by December 2, 2018. Applications are reviewed on a first come, first serve basis. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. Contact Lois Heffernan (lheffernan@Miami.edu) to inquire about any missing documents.
Application Process Timeline

• IMPORTANT: All supporting application documents (see bolded below) must be received by application deadline. Do not delay to begin working on your application; if needed, take the GRE ASAP.

  – Completed applications include: completed and submitted online application with fee, official ETS GRE scores or waiver application; 3 letters; official transcripts, Statement of Purpose, Resume;
  – Faculty review of applications completed within three weeks and admission decisions sent via email;
  – Intent to Enroll (accept or decline) must be declared by date on letter of admission you receive via email;
  – Program orientation and registration prior to enrollment
Questions/Contact

Dr. Christina Crocco
SEALED Program Manager
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ccrocco@miami.edu