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 two 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/)
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
  – Half of each cohort 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 “Mandatory Fees” for other required or optional fees charged each semester and summer session upon enrollment at http://bulletin.miami.edu/general-university-information/university-policies/financial-payment-policies/tuition-fees/ for part-time graduate students. These fees are slightly increased each year; therefore, note the academic year listed at the top of the webpage.
# Projected Timeline for Master’s Degree Completion
(number of credits/semester or summer session)

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<td>Credits/Classes</td>
<td>6 credits (2 classes)</td>
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**2018-19: $100.95/credit**

**2019-20: $104.00/credit**
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) and students within that class to complete graduate course assignments within their own teaching contexts;

– 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 during the last two weeks of July 2020
Expectations Cont’d

• If randomly selected for coaching, you would receive job-embedded, coaching support and be expected to:
  – Schedule and actively participate in coaching 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 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 or electronic)** 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

- **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 April 7, 2019. Applications are reviewed on a first come, first serve basis. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.
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.

  – 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

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