

# **COLLEGE OF EDUCATION** AT ILLINOIS

# Preparing Culturally Responsive Early Intervention & Early Childhood Special Education Personnel [PCRP Project]

# PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) program in the Department of Special Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has been awarded a federal grant (PCRP Project) to fund students interested in earning a **master's degree**, with an emphasis on working with young children, ages birth to six, with disabilities and their families. The focus of this master's degree program is to prepare personnel who have expertise in young children's social-emotional development as a foundation for providing culturally responsive and evidence-based services. This is a 2 year full-time master's program on the Champaign-Urbana campus. There are no online courses at the present time. [Note: If you already have an Illinois Professional Educator License and the ECE Endorsement (formerly known as the Type 04 teaching certificate), one of the program options for our master's degree includes the coursework and field experience required by the Illinois State Board of Education for the ESL Endorsement.]

Interested individuals should apply to the graduate program in the Department of Special Education.

<u>Deadline for receipt of admission applications:</u>

April 1, 2015 for enrollment beginning Summer or Fall 2015

For more information about the application process and admission deadlines, visit: http://education.illinois.edu/sped/AdmissionsMasters.html. Applicants should indicate their interest in the PCRP funding in the goal statement component of the application materials.

### **FUNDING**

If accepted into the program, funding consists of a traineeship stipend, a tuition waiver, and waiver of some fees. Funding is limited and awarded on a competitive basis. Attached to this funding is a **service obligation** to be fulfilled after completion of the degree: two years of service in a professional setting that benefits young children with disabilities for every one-year of funding accepted. This service obligation can be met through paid employment in the early childhood special education field anywhere in the continental United States.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Dr. Mary-alayne Hughes, Project Director, mahughes@illinois.edu