Dear Scholar,

We appreciate your inquiry into Project Bridges. This federally-funded project provides financial support to individuals who are seeking a Masters of Education (M.Ed.) Degree in Exceptional Student Education that includes a Graduate Certificate as an Intervention Specialist. Most courses will be offered in an on-line format, with up to 6 credit hours (2 classes) per semester, beginning Summer, 2015.

To be considered for acceptance through Project Bridges, you **must**:

* Be accepted through Graduate Studies for the Master of Education degree program in Exceptional Student Education OR for a Master’s + 30 Educational Specialist Degree

(apply at: <http://www.graduate.ucf.edu/>)

* Be accepted through Graduate Studies for the Intervention Specialist Certificate.

(apply at: <http://www.graduate.ucf.edu/>)

* Take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), if applicable
* Have a 3.0 GPA in your last 60 hours of undergraduate coursework
* Submit a professional letter of recommendation, resume, and one-page goal statement

**Application deadline** for the Graduate Certificate in Intervention Specialist and/or the Masters of Education in Exceptional Student Education **is April 15** for the summer semester. To be considered for funding as available through Project Bridges, please complete the attached funding application and return it to bridges@ucf.edu as an attachment.

Interviews will be conducted with qualified applicants who have been accepted into the Master’s program through Graduate Studies and the Intervention Specialist Certificate. Up to 24 Scholars will be accepted into the initial cohort. Interviews of applicants will begin March 16. **Please Note**: There is a service agreement from the USDOE associated with grant funding that requires recipients to teach students with disabilities for two years for every one year of financial support. Additional details will be provided at the time of the interview.

If you are interested in only the Intervention Specialist Graduate Certificate or wish to apply the required courses within the Intervention Specialist Graduate Certificate into another approved program as a track or specialization, you may apply through Graduate Studies for the Graduate Certificate.

Courses within the Intervention Specialist Certificate are also approved as a specialization within the Master’s + 30 (Educational Specialist) Advanced Graduate degrees at UCF. Limited funding may be available for individuals who are seeking only the certificate as part of the Educational Specialist program. For more information on this options, please visit <http://www.graduatecatalog.ucf.edu/programs/program.aspx?id=1152&tid=4141&track=Masters%20+30>

**Please Note**: If you do not meet the GPA requirement for the Master’s Program, you may be given the opportunity to complete a provisional application. It is recommended that you consider starting with the Graduate Certificate as an Intervention Specialist to demonstrate your ability to succeed in graduate coursework and increase your eligibility for acceptance of your provisional application as a limited number are accepted each semester.

We look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us.

Thank you,

Cynthia Pearl, Ph.D. Mary E. Little, Ph.D.

Project Co-Director Project Co-Director