

# Doctor of Philosophy *in Education*

## *Applied Developmental Science and Special Education*



**A program that  
empowers graduate  
students to research  
and improve the lives of  
children across a diverse  
range of life experiences**

## At A Glance

**Degree Type:** Ph.D. in Education

**Program Length:** 4-5 Years

**Application Deadline for Fall 2022:** February 8, 2022

The Applied Developmental Science and Special Education (ADSSE) concentration of our Ph.D. in Education program provides students with a rigorous theoretical and interdisciplinary foundation in developmental science or in special education. We empower students to improve the lives of children and youth — with a range of abilities — and their families, with a focus on serving those from diverse sociocultural backgrounds. Students work closely with their advisors — who work across academic fields, but most notably across areas of human development research — to develop skills and experiences necessary to work as a leader in a variety of research settings, including academia, governmental entities, and research firms. Throughout the program, students engage in research activities, grant writing, and the dissemination of research with their advisors. Our students often present at national conferences and teach college-level classes.

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Whether focused on human development or on special education, all of our students in the ADSSE concentration actively participate in collaborative and interdisciplinary research partnerships with faculty researchers across the UNC-Chapel campus and beyond. To learn more about individual faculty research activities, please visit [ed.unc.edu/adsse](http://ed.unc.edu/adsse)

Our varied research seeks equitable opportunities for development and learning for all children, youth, and families. We place emphasis on ecologically valid and socioculturally sensitive programs directed toward children, youth, and families.

Funding for students is available through teaching and research assistantships based on faculty/student research interest. Funding for students studying special education is also available through NC-LEND Fellowships from the Center for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.



Leslie Fox '14  
Education Program Specialist  
U.S. Department of Education



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## How will you propel the world?

To learn more about the Applied Developmental Science and Special Education concentration of the Ph.D. in Education program or to learn more about applying, email [ed@unc.edu](mailto:ed@unc.edu).

Visit [ed.unc.edu/adsse](http://ed.unc.edu/adsse)

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the WORLD