

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 admission, applications are typically due in early spring. For exact dates, visit ed.unc.edu/adsse.

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.



Doctor of Philosophy in Education

Applied Developmental Science and Special Education

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.

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*

“The School of Education’s reputation as a leader in early childhood special education and literacy research and its partnership with the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute were my reasons for applying to UNC. I wanted to learn from leaders in my field.”

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.

Visit ed.unc.edu/adsse

PROPEL
the WORLD