

## PASE PhD Grant: Special Education Administration

The Preparation of Administrators in Special Education (PASE) grant, a partnership with Rutgers, Univ. South Carolina and Northern Arizona University will offer financial support to a limited number of scholars to pursue a PhD Degree for a career as a Special Education Administrator. The purpose of the PASE grant is to prepare special educators to work as Special Education administrators in schools, districts, state and other special education agencies in positions such as Special Education Directors, Early Intervention Coordinators, and State or Agency Special Education Administrators.

PASE cohort begins in January 2026 and ends by May 2030. Courses are on-line/in-person in spring and fall semester, and in person in Flagstaff, AZ, New Brunswick, NJ and Columbia, SC in summer. Qualification exams and a dissertation are required to complete the doctorate. PASE provides funding for tuition, stipends, books, travel to campus in summer, and summer campus housing during travel. Virtual seminars with nationally known researchers in special education are an integral part of this doctoral program. After graduation, PASE program graduates are prepared and required to take positions as full time Special Education administrators.

### Requirements

1. Career goal to be a full-time Special Education Administrator (Regular School Principal and Superintendent positions do not meet this US Dept of Ed/OSEP requirement).
2. A minimum of three years' experience as a special education teacher and must have Special Education Certification.
3. A Master's degree is preferred.
4. US Citizenship/ Permanent Residency.
5. If accepted to PASE, two-week Summer residence and coursework at the three PASE campuses is required.
6. Admission to College of Education Doctoral program (after conditional admission to PASE grant).
7. Accepted scholars must sign a service contract\* with U.S. Dept of Ed. *\*PASE requires 10 years payback as Full time (paid) Special Education Administrator for 5 years of grant support.*

10/1-11/15/25 Email Dr. Zhang [dake.zhang@gse.rutgers.edu](mailto:dake.zhang@gse.rutgers.edu) for PASE application requirements  
10/31 5:00 PM EST, Zoom Information meeting (pls register at

[https://rutgers.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_j9gXHbk1TK2f5mt6qLWLKw](https://rutgers.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_j9gXHbk1TK2f5mt6qLWLKw))

11/15/25 PASE application including letters of recommendation DUE to [dake.zhang@gse.rutgers.edu](mailto:dake.zhang@gse.rutgers.edu) (no application fees for PASE application)

Oct - Nov Individual Zoom Interviews & Offers Given as Conditional Admission to PASE

December, 1 Applicants who are **Conditionally Accepted to PASE** MUST apply to the Rutgers PhD program by December 1 (Applicants need a \$70 non-refundable fee, letters of recommendation, official transcripts)

January 2026 PASE Coursework begins.