



VCU

School of Education

[Certificate in Disability Leadership](#)

We look forward to supporting you through the application process. This checklist is a resource designed to support your next steps. Once you create an online application and select the semester and program you would like to apply, you will see individualized guidance and questions specific to your program embedded in the application.

Application Deadlines: Fall (Aug. 1), Summer (Mar. 15) & Spring (Nov. 1)- Late applications will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis

Step 1: Online application: Create your online graduate application account. Choose the year that aligns with your expected start semester: <https://www.vcu.edu/admissions/apply/graduate/>

Step 2: VALEND application: Applications are available in late April each year from the VaLEND website. Send the Va-LEND application to valend@vcu.edu. **Please note:** this program is a cohort consortium and applications are accepted and reviewed each year in late spring/early summer.

Step 3: Statement of Intent: VCU requires that prospective students provide a written statement of purpose for all graduate program applicants. Please review the application resources, including statement of intent suggestions on [this page of our School of Education website](#)

Step 4: References: The system has an area for you to submit the names and emails of **three letters of reference**. Select a “Due Date” anytime before the deadline. You can use the “Notes” area to share what you would like your references to highlight to support your statement of intent or other areas of your application.

Step 4: Transcripts: You can upload PDF copies of your *unofficial* transcripts for the review/decision process. You will be required to submit official academic transcripts from **all institutions you have attended** in order to enroll. If you have completed a program at VCU, if you have unofficial copies, please upload these to expedite the process, if not, admissions will manually pull your transcripts. Please mail your official transcripts to the following mailing or email address:

Virginia Commonwealth University

E-Transcripts: gradmail@vcu.edu

Office of Graduate Admissions, Box 843051 / Richmond, Virginia 23284-3051

Step 6: Testing requirement: There are no tests required for this program. You can skip this part of the application by selecting the button labeled “I am not adding any standardized tests”.

Step 7: Submit application fee and push submit: Please submit the application fee in order to submit your application.

Step 8: Receiving and accepting your admissions decision: You will receive an email recommending you for admission from your Department. Your official admissions letter will come from VCU graduate admissions virtually and physically. Upon receipt of the official letter from VCU, you must email respondgrad@vcu.edu to confirm your acceptance into the program. This will allow the system to create a formal account that will allow you to register.

Step 9: Review the Accepted Graduate Student Checklist for critical next steps as you transition to VCU.

Please contact us at with any questions throughout the process: soeinfo@vcu.edu and/or soeogs@vcu.edu.