



Pfeiffer University
The Grigg Education Scholars Program

Purpose

The purpose of the Grigg Education Scholars Program is to recruit and develop prospective teachers who will exemplify scholarship, character and leadership in the classroom and community. The recipient(s) of the Grigg Education Scholar designation must demonstrate a genuine love of people, an appreciation for education, a desire for excellence in all his/her endeavors, and a vision to use his/her talents to serve humankind.

Program Overview

The Grigg Education Scholars Program provides scholarship support to exceptional prospective teachers who seek to prepare for excellence in the teaching profession while also developing servant leadership skills and dispositions through service to the University and the community. Additionally, many of the programmatic components designed to provide an academically enriched program of teacher preparation for the Grigg Education Scholars will also benefit other students who demonstrate high potential for excellence in teaching.

Program Goals

1. Recruit candidates with high potential for the teaching profession.
2. Provide an academically-enriched teacher education experience for Grigg Education Scholars, which extends beyond the traditional academic program.
3. Assist Grigg Education Scholars in developing a personal sense of mission, service and professionalism.
4. Develop student leadership within the ranks of teacher candidates to provide an enriched extracurricular program.

Eligibility

The Grigg Education Scholars Program is open to North Carolina high school seniors who qualify to attend Pfeiffer University and are interested in the teaching profession. Preference is given to Stanly County students who meet the program criteria. The Grigg Education Scholars awards shall be contingent upon the candidate's enrollment as a full-time student at Pfeiffer University during the fall semester of the award year.

Application

A scholarship committee comprised of School of Education faculty members and admissions personnel will interview applicants who submit the following documents as candidates for participation in the Grigg Education Scholars Program.

1. A Grigg Education Scholars application form.

2. A high school transcript verifying a GPA of at least 3.0. (If in a home school, verification of the school's registration with the NC Division of Non-Public Schools.)
3. A composite S.A.T. score on the Verbal and Mathematics tests of at least 1000.
4. A resume that specifies the candidates' work, extracurricular, and community involvement.
5. An essay written by the candidate that describes the candidates' life goals and interest in the college experience of the Grigg Education Scholar.
6. Three letters of reference that attest to the candidate's demonstration of a love of people, an appreciation for education, a desire for excellence in all endeavors, and a vision to use his/her talents to serve humankind.
7. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form filed with the Financial Aid Office, Pfeiffer University

Program Guidelines

Award maximums will be established annually according to income available from the Grigg Education Scholars program endowment. Awards shall not exceed the cost of tuition, room and board. Awards will be provided to one or more recipients each year for a total of up to eight (8) semesters. For renewal, candidates must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0. By the end of the sophomore year, Grigg Education Scholars must apply and be admitted to the Teacher Education Program. To maintain the scholarship, Grigg Education Scholars must continue in the Teacher Education Program until the baccalaureate degree has been earned.

Campus Life as a Grigg Education Scholar

Scholarship recipients will be known as Grigg Education Scholars and will be housed along with the Francis Scholars and Bonner Scholars in Cline Hall, Pfeiffer's servant leadership focused living/learning community.

Each Grigg Education Scholar will be assigned a faculty mentor for academic guidance, advice and assistance in fulfilling all obligations associated with this designation.

All Grigg Education Scholars will participate in an academically enriched teacher education program known as The Teacher Education (TE) Scholars Program. This program requires student participation in (1) the University's Honors Program and (2) semester-long seminars that serve as the centerpiece of the TE Scholars Program.

Along with Grigg Education Scholars, all other Education majors or minors meeting the same qualifications as Grigg Education Scholars will be eligible for participation in the enriched academic component of the Grigg Education Scholars Program. They will be invited to apply for participation and must submit an essay and references that attest to the personal characteristics of Grigg Education Scholars. They will be accepted for participation based on decision by the Teacher Education Board, the governing board for Pfeiffer's Teacher Education programs. Students will be eligible for the TE Scholars Program if they remain in the Teacher Education program and maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA throughout their matriculation at Pfeiffer. All students participating in the TE Scholars Program will be known as TE Scholars.

Academics

The Honors Program

All Grigg Education Scholars as well as other TE Scholars will participate in the University's Honors Program. Students participating in the Honors Program take honors-designated courses in which they complete expanded assignments or a special project of their own design under the guidance of faculty members. Projects are presented in honors colloquia held throughout the academic year. Both Grigg and TE Scholars will take at least one honors-designated course each year and will participate in all other aspects of the Honors Program, including attendance at honors colloquia each semester.

- During the freshman year, the designated honors course will be EDUC 205 Introduction to Teaching. The Grigg and TE Scholars may design and present any project related to the concept of the teacher as servant leader as approved by the EDUC 205 instructor.
- During the sophomore year, the Scholars will focus their projects on preparation for teaching diverse populations. The designated honors course for the sophomore year will be EDUC 306 The Learner and Learning I, but students' projects will align with content studied in the sophomore year TE Scholars Seminar. (See Sophomore TE Scholars Seminar below.)
- During the junior year, Grigg and TE Scholars will focus their honors projects on international education. The 1st semester Teacher Education Scholars Seminar will be the designated honors class.
- During the senior year, the designated course will be EDUC 510/520/SPED 515 Student Teaching. Grigg and TE Scholars will plan an action research study as part of the 1st semester TE Scholars Seminar prior to student teaching and will implement the study during the student teaching semester. The Scholars will prepare a presentation of the action research study as a senior honors thesis, thus undertaking another requirement of the Honors Program.

Teacher Education Scholars Seminars

During each semester, except for last semester of the senior year that is devoted to student teaching, all Grigg Education Scholars and other qualified students will participate in the TE Scholars Seminar. The seminars will be designed to develop students' leadership skills and in depth knowledge of the educational process. Each seminar will carry one (1) semester hour of credit for successful participation. A full-time faculty member in the School of Education will be the instructor for all seminars.

Freshman Seminars

The Freshman Seminars will focus on expanding the knowledge base of the Grigg and TE Scholars. The students also will develop organizational skills by planning and implementing special enrichment sessions, known as cultural programs, for all students in the School of Education.

All students enrolled in the undergraduate college are required to participate in the cultural program and must obtain 60 units of credit (roughly 120 hours of participation) to meet graduation requirements. Grigg and TE Scholars will contribute uniquely to this program by developing sessions for the cultural program that are designed primarily for School of Education

students, but which will be open to all students. In making these offerings available, the School of Education will address area goals related to increased visibility and ongoing contribution to an enhanced cultural environment on campus.

Cultural program sessions developed by the Grigg and TE Scholars will provide academic and cultural enrichment in three areas: (1) the humanities, primarily programs, lectures, and book/film discussions related to the human condition; (2) the social sciences, focusing on topics in psychology, sociology, and education that will supplement course work for enhanced student inquiry; and (3) speakers who are winners in the North Carolina Teachers of the Year awards programs. Events related to the human condition may focus on international conflicts and challenges. Grigg and TE Scholars will decide topics and plan cultural programs with the guidance of the seminar instructor.

Sophomore Seminars

During the sophomore year, the Teacher Education Scholars Seminars will focus on equipping the Grigg and TE Scholars to develop knowledge and skill to be school leaders in successfully teaching diverse school populations. In their sophomore seminars, the students will explore diversity in American education and education internationally. The first semester seminar will feature professionals who will teach the culture and heritage of ethnic minority groups including, but not limited to: African-Americans, Hmong, Mexicans and Mexican-Americans, Native Americans, and Latino Americans from Middle and/or South America.

This semester will also include field trips developed by the TE Scholars Seminar instructor to communities, institutions, and/or events that are organized or largely populated by African-Americans, Hmong, Mexicans and Mexican-Americans, Native Americans, and/or Latino Americans, and other ethnic minorities. Scholars will write reflection papers and have guided discussions after each visit. As time permits, the seminar students may also study the frameworks provided by Ruby Payne and Marva Collins for effectively including children of poverty in the public school classroom.

During the second semester of the sophomore year, Grigg and TE Scholars will investigate schools and strategies that have been documented in educational literature as effective in working with one of national/ethnic minority groups studied during the first semester. This study also will include interviews with ethnic minority parents, and at least one visit to an institution or event operated and/or sponsored by the group of interest. This study will comprise the Honors Program project for the sophomore year and will be presented at an Honors Colloquium.

Junior Seminars

The junior year seminars will focus on international education. An expansion of the University's existing TRIP (Travel International with Pfeiffer) program, the Grigg and TE Scholars will benefit from a unique focus on the education systems of the countries to which they will travel. Along with other TRIP program participants, Grigg and TE Scholars will study in preparation for international travel and then participate in travel to other countries during the weeks immediately following the semester of study.

During the first semester, using print and nonprint resources, including conversations with overseas colleagues, the students will study the goals, organization, and curriculum of the educational systems in at least three countries other than the United States.

During the second semester, the Grigg and TE Scholars will take TRIP 200 Seminar for the Travel International with Pfeiffer Experience. During this seminar they will study topics selected by the instructor to coordinate with the international travel that will be scheduled for the weeks following the end of the academic year. The international travel will feature study of the educational system in the country visited.

University resources customarily applied to the TRIP program will be applied to TRIP for the Grigg and TE Scholars. Remaining out of pocket TRIP participation costs will be provided for Grigg Scholars, allowing these students to travel internationally at no cost. Endowment program funding will support the cost of student meals during travel at a rate equal to the University per diem as funds allow. Student spending money will not be provided.

Senior Seminars

The purpose of the Senior Seminar will be to prepare the Grigg and TE Scholars to be teacher-researchers and collegial leaders. Seminars during the first semester will prepare the students to conduct action research in the public school classroom. Scholars will design an action research study to be conducted during the last semester of student teaching. The student teaching instructor and the school-based cooperating teacher will be mentoring partners to assist Grigg and TE Scholars with the implementation of the action research. However, first semester seminar instructors will assist the scholars program students to prepare the research for presentation in a formal, written document. This assistance will be provided to the students on an individual basis.

Extracurricular

Grigg Education Scholars, in their sophomore, junior and senior years, will serve as student co-advisors to the Student Education Majors Club (SEMC). In this role, they will participate in all service activities sponsored by the SEMC, and will provide leadership for development of cultural hours for the University's cultural program in conjunction with the freshman TE Scholars Seminar.

Recruitment for Grigg Education Scholars

Information about the Grigg Education Scholars Program will be available to all students interested in Pfeiffer University through the Pfeiffer website and the catalogue. However, to assure that diverse populations of prospective Stanly County residents will be informed about this opportunity, brochures describing the Grigg Education Scholars Program will be distributed to all Stanly County high schools. Recruitment efforts will specifically target students of the early college program at Stanly Community College, participants in local high school teacher academies and advanced placement classes in the county's high schools.

All persons who apply for the Grigg Education Scholars Program will be invited to the campus during recruitment days. These events are sponsored by the Admissions Office and include information on the Teacher Education Program presented by a faculty member in the School of Education.