



Robert Noyce Scholarship for Excellence in STEM Teaching

About the UCR Noyce Scholarship Program

The Robert Noyce Scholarship Program at the University of California, Riverside, is a project funded by the National Science Foundation; it supports UCR's vision and commitment to increase the number of highly qualified secondary school mathematics and science teachers in high-need schools. The program is administrated in partnership with the ALPHA Center, the Science and Mathematics Initiative (SMI), the Graduate School of Education and the Moreno Valley Unified School District.

Objectives of the program

- To recruit qualified undergraduates majoring in mathematics or science disciplines (junior/seniors) and single-subject credential program students dedicated to teaching middle or high school mathematics or science in a high-need school district.
- To provide support for strengthening content and pedagogical knowledge via intense classroom experiences, mentoring and professional activities.
- Facilitate connections to public school districts (Moreno Valley USD and others) to secure internships/teaching positions during and after completion of a teaching credential program.

What is a High-Need School District?

The National Science Foundation defines a school district as high-need if it meets at least one of the following criteria:

1. It has at least one school in which 50% or more of the enrolled students are eligible for participation in free or reduced lunch program.
2. It has at least one school in which: (i) more than 34% of the academic classroom teachers at the secondary level (across all academic subjects) do not have an undergraduate degree with a major or minor in, or a graduate degree in, the academic field in which they teach the largest percentage of their classes; or (ii) more than 34% of teachers in two of the academic departments who do not have an undergraduate degree with a major or minor in, or a graduate degree in, the academic field in which they teach the largest percentage of their classes.
3. It has at least one school whose teacher attrition rate has been 15% or more over the last three school years.

What the UCR Noyce Program offers:

- A scholarship of \$10,000 for up to 3 years towards payment of tuition and fees to earn a Single Subject Credential at the UCR Graduate School of Education.
- An annual budget of \$300 for each year of Noyce affiliation (including service-teaching years) for professional development activities.
- Participation in professional development programs comprised of seminars, workshops, and advanced teaching opportunities.
- Student-teaching experiences with qualified teachers in (but not limited to) Moreno Valley School District.
- Professional network supported by UCR faculty, staff, in-service teachers and pre-service teachers.

Teaching Terms and Conditions

Accepting the Noyce Scholarship award requires the recipient to commit to teaching in a high-need school district for two years for each year of Noyce Program support. If the teaching obligation is not met, the scholarship must be repaid, with interest.

Eligibility

- U.S. Citizen, U.S. National, or Permanent Resident
- UCR Junior or Senior level student (completion of 90+ units) with a declared major in the College of Natural Agricultural Sciences or the Bourns College of Engineering or a UCR Single-Subject Science or Mathematics Teaching Credential Candidate with a Science or Mathematics BS degree
- If an undergraduate, intention to pursue a single-subject science or mathematics teaching credential at the UCR Graduate School of Education
- A cumulative GPA 3.0 or above
- Successful completion of the CBEST exam
- Agree to the Teaching Terms and Conditions stated above

Note: students from underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

All applicants are required to:

- Complete and sign the application packet
- Write a personal statement (2-3 pages) describing educational and career goals. Refer to online application packet for details.
- Provide permission to access official copies of all university/college transcripts
- Provide two sealed letters of reference
- Have a FASFA application on file with UCR's Financial Aid Office

Selection Criteria

- Academic merit
- Demonstrated motivation and interest to the teaching profession
- Financial need

Selected Noyce Scholars are required to:

- Obtain a teaching certification at the UCR Graduate School of Education
- Regularly meet or communicate with faculty/staff advisers
- Work closely with assigned teacher mentor
- Participate in all Noyce Scholars activities
- Complete Noyce Scholars survey and assessment
- Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0
- Teach in a high-need school district for a period of two years for each year of Noyce Scholarship aid received.

All Noyce Scholarship recipients will sign a legally binding promissory note prior to receive funding, and graduates will be required to provide verification of employment in a high-need school district during their service requirement. If a graduate fails to provide such verification, he or she will be required to repay the funds with interest.

Further information and application forms available at <http://smi.ucr.edu/noyce.html>

UCR Noyce Contact Person

Maria C. Simani, Ph.D. - Program Director
UCR ALPHA Center - College Building South, 200
maria.simani@ucr.edu