

MASTER OF ARTS IN DEAF EDUCATION:

Fontbonne Clarke Northeast Collaborative

Specialty Area: Preparing Educators to Serve Children Who Are Deaf/Hard of Hearing in Inclusive Educational Settings

Fontbonne University and Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech have developed a partnership to offer a Master of Arts in Deaf Education. This hybrid model offers Fontbonne University coursework using synchronous distance video technology and practicum for graduate students in the Northeast region of the U.S. at any of the four Clarke Schools in Boston, New York City, Philadelphia or Northampton, Massachusetts. In addition to these locations, students have the opportunity to complete coursework at CREC/Soundbridge and Bergen County New Jersey's Hearing Impaired Program (HIP).

This program is a unique model for how to prepare a new generation of professionals. It stresses an interdisciplinary approach, incorporating the principles of best practice from deaf education, early childhood education, speech-language pathology and special education. Classes are small and highly interactive. Faculty are nationally recognized, experienced and committed to each graduate student's success. Many of our faculty continue to work with children and families, sharing their expertise through technological advancements, evidence-based practices and innovative techniques.

Deaf Education Graduate Program

All coursework is presented by instructors through face-to-face instruction or via video conferencing.

The 42-credit-hour curriculum will prepare graduate students with the content and experiences they need to:

- provide educational services to students who use listening and spoken language,
- collaborate with professionals in inclusive educational settings,
- monitor and facilitate the use of hearing technology,
- instruct learners with modifications and accommodations,
- support learners' self-advocacy and social-emotional development.

In addition to the core curriculum, graduate students will also participate in over 400 hours of field experience in or near the city in which they reside.

About the Program

For 50 years, Fontbonne's deaf education program has prepared professionals to teach children who are deaf and hard-of-hearing. Graduates of Fontbonne University's program in Deaf Education have broad backgrounds in deaf education, special education, and speech and hearing science. They are knowledgeable of current trends in each of these fields and skilled to work with children who are deaf and hard of hearing (d/hh) from early intervention through high school.

In the last 20 years, technological advances have dramatically changed the educational opportunities for children who are d/hh. Early identification through newborn hearing screening, early intervention services and the development of sophisticated listening technology including digital hearing aids, cochlear implants, and personal and classroom listening systems have increased the opportunity for the development of listening and spoken language in early childhood. These advances have created an increasing need for qualified teachers of the deaf prepared to work with school age children who are d/hh using a listening and spoken language approach in inclusive educational settings.



Funding

Fontbonne University has received a federal grant to support students specializing in Preparing Educators to Serve Children Who Are Deaf/Hard of Hearing in Inclusive Educational Settings. Because of this grant, 33 credit hours of tuition will be funded for eight graduate students.

Apply now! Scholarships are available for accepted applicants.

Resources for other funding options:

- TEACH Grants (The TEACH Grant Program provides grants of up to \$4,000 a year to students who are completing or plan to complete course work needed to begin a career in teaching).
- Federal Student Aid
- For individuals with hearing loss: The Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing College Scholarship Program
- Additional college scholarship opportunities

For links to each of these funding options, visit www.fontbonne.edu/eidefunding.

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