

Reading UArizona Fellowship Frequently Asked Questions

What is Reading UArizona? Reading UArizona is a grant from the Office of Special Education Programs that supports scholars who will become practicing professionals with expertise in literacy intervention, particularly for multicultural children with disabilities.



Who is eligible? MS students in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences starting in Fall 2026 and rising undergraduate Juniors in the Mild and Moderate Disabilities program at the University of Arizona are eligible to apply to become a Reading UArizona Fellow. This will be our 2nd cohort. Applicants need to be planning to work with multicultural children with disabilities for their career. We particularly encourage applicants from historically-excluded backgrounds to apply.

How many Reading UArizona Fellows will you accept? We plan to accept 6 Fellows in each cohort.

Is there financial support for Reading UArizona Fellows? Yes! Each cohort member will receive a stipend based on their financial need. The minimum amount a Fellow would receive is \$10K and could be more than \$25K per year. There are also funds to support student memberships in professional groups and build a professional toolkit. Fellows making planned progress will be financially supported for both years of their programs.

Fellows are expected to 'pay back' this support after graduation by working in their intended field (i.e., SLP or special education teacher) for two years (full-time) for each year of support received (e.g., four years of employment for 2 years of support). Employment must be with children with disabilities. You can find more details on this [HERE](#).

How will this be different from the 'regular' program? While you will have the same experiences as your colleagues in the 'regular' program, you will receive extra training and clinical experiences related to literacy instruction. You will gain expertise in four areas: (1) Literacy, (2) Disability, (3) Multiculturalism, (4) Interprofessional Practice

What other advantages are there? You will be connected to mentors in the community, you will build an extra supportive community during your program, you will be creating professional connections, and you will have extra opportunities for growth, learning, and fun.

What are the expectations of a Reading UArizona Fellow? Students are expected to maintain good standing in their academic program and engage in monthly Reading UArizona activities and summer Literacy Camp. Following graduation, students are expected to work full time with students with disabilities (see above).

How do I apply? Once you apply to either the [SLHS MS program](#) or the in-person [MMD program](#) and are accepted, you will receive an invitation to apply for the Reading UArizona

program. As part of the application, you will be asked to answer a few questions about your interest in literacy and multiculturalism.

When will I find out if I have been accepted? We plan to announce open slots (and corresponding stipend amounts) in late March/early April 2026 for our next cohort. Applications will remain open until the cohort is full.

Who can I contact to find out more? For the SLP program, contact Mary Alt: malt@arizona.edu. For the special education program, contact Jen White: jenniferm@arizona.edu

