



A research opportunity open to all residential, undergraduate students at UF!

The Bob Graham Center is looking for 50 students to explore the critical challenges facing counties as they seek to improve early childhood education for residents.

As a Graham Civic Scholar, you will explore early childhood education services for families in an assigned Florida county by researching the issue, interviewing stakeholders, and writing a report. Upon satisfactory completion of all project requirements, you will receive a \$500 stipend.* The application deadline for the project is Wednesday, January 18, and the research must be completed by Friday, April 7. Students from all majors and backgrounds are encouraged to apply!

Applications due	Jan. 18
Notifications made	Jan. 25
Orientation*	Feb. 1
Lecture 1*	Feb. 9
Lecture 2*	Feb. 15
Roundtable*	Mar. 22
Reports due	Apr. 7
*mandatory events, plan accordingly	

Upon completion of the program, each student will receive

\$500

*If you receive need-based financial aid, please check with the UF Office of Student Financial Affairs (www.sfa.ufl.edu) to determine the impact of this stipend on your financial aid package. If you receive loans, the stipend will likely be applied directly toward repayment. In other words, you will not receive a check. You will simply owe less money upon graduation.

Step-by-step program guide for all Graham Civic Scholars

- 1. Attend the Orientation on Wednesday, February 1 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Pugh Hall Ocora.
- 2. Attend both Lectures on Thurs., Feb. 9 and Wed., Feb. 15 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Pugh Hall Ocora. This will include meeting with and checking in with your Mentor.
- 3. View and read background material related to early childhood education in the United States and Florida. There is a massive amount of research available online.
- 4. Research your county's situation and status as it relates to early childhood education and all related programs. Start online, every county has an Early Learning Coalition as mandated by the state.
- 5. Conduct in-person interviews with two county-level officials whose work is directly related to early childhood education.* Be sure to collect a business card or other artifact documenting your visit, which you must scan and submit with your final report.
- 6. Attend the Roundtable on Wednesday, March 22 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Pugh Hall Ocora.
- 7. Based on your interviews and your reading, write a report on your county. The required format of the report is described below and a rubric is provided on the last page of this memo. In order to receive the full stipend, you must "meet expectations" for each criterion listed in the rubric.
- 8. Email your report and scanned images of two business cards to Dr. Kevin Baron at kbaron76@ufl.edu by Friday, April 7 by 11:55 p.m.
- 9. Complete online Evaluation.

Format of your 5 page report

Name and UF ID number

- Title (must include the name of your county)
- Abstract
- Introduction that introduces your county and the topic
- Critical issue No. 1
- Critical issue No. 2
- Critical issue No. 3
- Potential solutions
- Concluding paragraph
- Bibliography

As with all academic papers, you must use and cite legitimate sources of information and provide a bibliography. Your paper must include at least two (2) references beyond your interviews. The bibliography must include all of your information sources (print and digital) as well as the interviews. Please use APA style. We recommend the following guide: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/

Technical specifications: All reports must be submitted in word-processed document, typed in size 12 Times New Roman font, double spaced, with one-inch margins all around. There is no need for a title page. Please label your document file as follows: Your name_County name.doc (example: Jane Smith Orange.doc)

Any questions or comments on the project can be directed to Dr. Kevin Baron at kbaron76@ufl.edu.

^{*}Students must cover their own travel expenses to and from their assigned county.