The PhD program in rehabilitation counselor education prepares graduates to serve as university professors in rehabilitation counseling and closely related academic programs. The program is a leader in preparing PhD professionals who go on to serve in teaching, research, and program administration at universities throughout the U.S. and internationally.

Through a rigorous program combining scholarly inquiry with opportunities for university-level teaching practice and applied internship practice, students gain outstanding research, leadership, and professional skills. Employment opportunities following graduation include public and private educational, rehabilitation, and mental health agencies, colleges and universities, and research settings.

Faculty members work closely with doctoral students on research projects including several Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers, technical assistance projects focused on promoting evidence-based practices in vocational rehabilitation and program evaluation, and the Vocational Rehabilitation Technical Assistance Center for Quality Employment (VRTAC-QE). In addition, faculty routinely involve students in a full array of professional activities. These may include serving as editors or editorial board members for journals, preparing materials for litigation involving civil rights violations of persons with disabilities, preparing research and training grant applications, preparing training materials, and involvement in clinical cases.

For more information on current research projects, visit the department’s Featured Research Projects page (https://rpse.education.wisc.edu/research/featured-research-projects/).

Financial support is available to qualified graduate students and may include scholarships, traineeships, teaching assistantships, and research/project assistantships.