



February 6, 2019

Dear Vermont Educator,

You are cordially invited to apply to the Vermont Mathematics Initiative (VMI) Master's Degree program, a three-year professional development opportunity focusing on mathematics content, effective teaching practices, action research, and teacher leadership. Now in its twentieth year, the VMI has over 500 educators who are either currently enrolled or recently graduated with advanced degrees. VMI graduates continue to play important roles in their schools, districts and state-wide.

Over the past year, the VMI organization has restructured, formed new partnerships and created new curricula and programs. The 2019 cohort will be the first to experience substantive changes developed to address current research, while continuing to experience the foundational aspects of the VMI program that have been successful since our inception. We are in the process of finalizing our higher education partner which we will announce shortly.

We are able to offer admission to a limited number of qualified applicants each year. ***Please note that there are no prerequisite mathematics requirements for entry into the VMI program.*** Just as classroom teachers are expected to help students with diverse backgrounds, strengths and needs, our faculty and staff are committed to helping all teachers--including classroom teachers, special educators, math interventionists, math teacher leaders, and administrators--develop their expertise in mathematics content, mathematics instruction, educational research, and teacher leadership.

Successful applicants to the VMI Master's program are PreK-8 teachers committed to enhancing their effectiveness as teachers of mathematics, are enthusiastic about increasing their mathematics content knowledge in a supportive environment, and are committed to sharing their increased knowledge of mathematics content and pedagogy with colleagues through mentoring, peer coaching or other forms of professional development. Through VMI coursework, classroom applications, mentoring by VMI staff, and leadership training, teachers in the VMI will earn the Master of Education (M.Ed) degree.

The VMI application should clearly articulate how participation in the VMI will address identified school needs. ***The VMI encourages schools, especially those with larger enrollments, to submit applications for more than one teacher.*** We have found that teams of teachers, ideally representing different grade levels, often support more broad-reaching systemic changes. Therefore, please share this information with colleagues.

Detailed information about the VMI is enclosed within this mailing. Completed applications are due no later than March 15, 2019. We anticipate notifying applicants of acceptance no later than April 15th, 2019.

Thank you for your interest in the Vermont Mathematics Initiative. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Judi Laird (jlaird@burkevt.net), VMI Director, at (802) 274-0436 or (802) 626-8467.

Sincerely,

Judi Laird, Director
VMI