The VCU Health Educational Research Opportunities for Teachers (HERO-T) provides research experiences in the biomedical sciences for teachers from the Richmond, Virginia Metropolitan Area. The HERO-T program is designed to help improve the quality of science teaching as well as student achievement in secondary science classes by providing teachers with a substantive two-year research/professional development experience. The cornerstone of the program is a mentored research experience (including both an 8 week summer program and a professional learning community during the academic year) with VCU faculty members. HERO-T Fellows have the opportunity to present their work at local, regional and national research meetings.

Eligible applicants must have a valid Virginia teaching credential (in a secondary science) with a minimum of three years recent teaching experience, be a tenured teacher in his/her school division, be able to participate in the required eight week research experience for two consecutive summers and in a monthly Professional Learning Community meetings during each subsequent academic year. Eligible applicants must be U.S. citizens, permanent residents or non-citizen nationals. Proof of citizenship status or resident status will be required.