

# CHILD AND FAMILY STUDIES

## What can I do with this degree?

### AREAS

### EMPLOYERS

### STRATEGIES

#### PRE-SCHOOL/DAYCARE

Teaching  
Administration

Church/religious organizations  
Montessori schools  
Private, public, franchise, and corporate daycare centers  
Private homes  
Family daycare  
Extended school programs  
Nursery school/mother's day out programs  
Head Start programs

Develop physical stamina for working with children.  
Acquire certification/licensing for daycare and public school teaching.  
Obtain experience working with children through volunteerism or part-time jobs.

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES

Administration  
Development  
Programming

Community centers  
YMCA, YWCA  
Consumer protection agencies  
Summer camp programs  
Adult and child daycare providers  
Programs servicing children and adults with special needs  
Hospitals  
Rehabilitation organizations  
Retirement homes  
Church/religious organizations  
Adoption agencies

Seek related work experience, particularly summer camps or special needs areas.  
Learn to work well with all types of people through volunteer or paid positions.  
Obtain Child Life Certification for some areas.

#### SOCIAL SERVICES

Case Management  
Counseling  
Administration  
Development

Profit and nonprofit organizations geared to services for children, youth, families or senior citizens  
Adult and child daycare providers  
Group homes  
Half-way houses  
Youth services agencies  
Senior citizens' programs  
Federal, state, and local government  
Departments of Welfare and Health  
Foundations and funding organizations

Take counseling/social work courses as minor or a double major.  
Obtain master's degree in counseling, social work, or rehabilitation counseling to provide therapy.  
Get graduate degree for most administrative positions.  
Learn federal, state, and local government job application process.

**AREAS**

**EMPLOYERS**

**STRATEGIES**

EDUCATION

Teaching  
Research  
Counseling  
Administration  
Home Economics  
Vocational Rehabilitation  
Parent-Child Education  
Curriculum Development

Public and private schools, K-12  
Public preschool programs, e.g., Head Start  
Private preschool programs  
Adult Education programs  
Colleges and universities  
Programs servicing children and adults with special needs  
Montessori schools  
Government

Acquire certification/licensing for public school teaching K-12.  
Obtain Ph.D. for college and university teaching and research.  
Acquire certification for daycare and parent-child education.  
Obtain graduate degree for counseling and administrative positions.  
Learn federal and state government job application process.  
Double major in Special Education.

Early Childhood Special Education

MEDICAL

Childcare Programs  
Education

Hospitals  
Healthcare facilities  
Mental health organizations  
Health and wellness agencies  
Hospices

May need master's degree in counseling, social work, or specialized area.  
Obtain experience in advocacy.  
Acquire licensing/certification for some areas.  
Volunteer in a healthcare setting.

BUSINESS

Management  
Sales  
Marketing Research  
Consulting  
Credit Departments  
Staff Benefits

Corporate care for children and adults  
Daycare facilities  
Department and retail stores  
Manufacturing companies of children's clothes, toys, furniture, and food  
Banks and financial institutions  
Insurance companies

Obtain a minor in business.  
Develop business skills in finance, accounting, marketing/sales, taxes, and bookkeeping.  
Secure leadership positions on campus.  
Get related experience through internships or part-time jobs.  
Build computer skills in word processing, database, and spreadsheet programs.

COMMUNICATIONS

Journalism  
Advertising  
Public Relations  
Writing/Editing  
Research

Newspapers and magazines, particularly those geared to children/family  
Book publishers  
Trade associations  
Radio and TV stations  
Nonprofit organizations  
Advertising agencies  
Manufacturers of related goods

Minor or double major in journalism.  
Develop excellent communication skills, both written and verbal.  
Submit articles/books for publication.  
Work for campus publications.

## AREAS

## EMPLOYERS

## STRATEGIES

### GOVERNMENT

Human/Social Services  
Rehabilitation  
Home Economics  
Legislation  
Advocacy

Federal, state and local government agencies  
Departments of Health, Education and  
Welfare, Sanitation, Fire/Safety,  
Nutrition, and Cooperative Extension  
Vocational rehabilitation  
Mental health agencies  
Adoption agencies  
Military child care programs  
Overseas child care and education programs  
Criminal justice system  
Health and wellness agencies  
Women's protective agencies

Learn federal, state, and local job application  
procedures.  
Take additional courses in your area of interest.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

- Bachelor's degree is sufficient for entry-level positions.
- Advanced degrees are essential for clinical and therapeutic counseling positions.
- Master's degree or Ph.D. is often needed for administrative and supervisory positions.
- Ph.D. is required for college teaching and advanced research positions.
- Additional or specialized training qualifies one for higher paying and more responsible positions.
- Obtain part-time, summer, internship, or volunteer experience in childcare, schools, hospitals, camps, or overseas programs or in advocacy/service-oriented programs dealing with alcoholism, drug abuse, family violence, aging, poor, disabled, etc.
- Obtain certification in CPR, safety, and first aid for adults, children, and infants.
- Develop interest and gain experience in computers, arts, crafts, music, etc.
- Obtain information on certification for specialized areas including Child Life Specialist or Child Advocacy.