# CHILD AND FAMILY STUDIES

## What can I do with this degree?

### AREAS

#### PRE-SCHOOL/DAY CARE
- Teaching
- Administration

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES
- Administration
- Development
- Programming
- Research
- Evaluation

#### SOCIAL SERVICES
- Case Management
- Counseling
- Administration

### EMPLOYERS

- Religious organizations
- Montessori schools
- Private, public, franchise, and corporate day care centers
- Private homes
- Family day care
- Extended school programs
- Preschools
- Head Start programs
- Community centers
- YMCA or YWCA
- Consumer protection agencies
- Summer camp programs
- Adult day care providers
- Hospitals
- Rehabilitation organizations
- Religious organizations
- Adoption agencies
- Profit and nonprofit organizations focused on children, youth, families, or senior citizens
- Adult and child day care providers
- Group homes
- Half-way houses
- Youth services agencies
- Senior citizens' programs
- Foundations and funding organizations

### STRATEGIES

- Develop physical stamina for working with children.
- Acquire appropriate certification or licensure for day care and public school teaching.
- Obtain experience working with children through volunteering or part-time jobs.
- Demonstrate patience with children and the ability to work well with people of various backgrounds.
- Develop strong communications skills to deal effectively with parents.
- 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.
- Develop strong presentation and public speaking skills.
- Be willing to wear multiple hats within an organization.
- Learn how to write grants.
- Develop research and writing skills.
- Supplement curriculum with courses in social work, sociology, or psychology.
- Obtain a master's degree and appropriate licensure in mental health counseling, social work, or rehabilitation counseling to provide therapy.
- Earn a graduate degree to obtain most administrative positions.
- Gain experience through volunteer positions or internships.
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<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
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<td><strong>EDUCATION</strong></td>
<td>Public and private schools (K-12)</td>
<td>Acquire appropriate certification for public school teaching.</td>
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<td>Teaching</td>
<td>Public preschool programs (e.g., Head Start)</td>
<td>Obtain Ph.D. for college and university teaching and research opportunities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Childhood Education</td>
<td>Private preschool programs</td>
<td>Acquire certification for day care and parent-child education.</td>
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<td>Early Childhood Special Education</td>
<td>Montessori schools</td>
<td>Obtain graduate degree for counseling, student affairs, and administrative positions.</td>
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<td>Home Economics</td>
<td>Adult education programs</td>
<td>Find part-time or summer jobs working with children.</td>
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<td>Family and Consumer Sciences</td>
<td>Colleges and universities</td>
<td>Serve as a tutor, peer mentor, resident assistant or student advisor.</td>
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<td>Curriculum Development</td>
<td>Programs servicing children and adults with special needs</td>
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<td>Parent-Child Education</td>
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| **MEDICAL** | | Earn a master's degree in Social Work, Counseling, or related areas for the most opportunities. |
| Child Care Programs | Hospitals | Obtain experience in advocacy. |
| Education | Healthcare facilities | Acquire licensing or certification for some areas. |
| | Health and wellness agencies | Volunteer in a healthcare setting. |
| | Hospices | |

| **BUSINESS** | Manufacturing companies of children's clothes, toys, furniture, and food | Minor in business; develop skills in areas such as management, marketing or sales. |
| Management | Department and retail stores | Secure leadership positions on campus. |
| Sales | Service organizations | Get related experience through internships or part-time jobs. |
| Customer Service | | Build computer skills in word processing, database management, and spreadsheet programs. |

| **COMMUNICATIONS** | Organizations geared toward children and family including: | Minor or double major in a communications field. |
| Journalism | Book publishers | Develop excellent communication skills, both written and verbal. |
| Public Relations | Professional associations | Submit articles or books for publication. |
| Writing | Radio and TV stations | Work for campus publications or radio stations. |
| Editing | Nonprofit organizations | Complete internships with related organizations. |
| Research | Manufacturers | |
| | Newspapers | |
| | Magazines | |
### AREAS

**GOVERNMENT**
- Social Services
- Rehabilitation
- Program Coordination
- Research
- Program Evaluation
- Legislation
- Advocacy

**EMPLOYERS**
- Federal, state and local government agencies (i.e., Departments of Health, Education and Welfare, Criminal Justice Departments, Sanitation, Fire/Safety, Nutrition, and Cooperative Extension)
- Vocational rehabilitation
- Mental health agencies
- Military child care programs
- Overseas child care and education programs
- Health and wellness agencies
- Women's protective agencies

**STATEGIES**
- Take additional courses in area of interest.
- Develop strong presentation and public speaking skills.
- Obtain specialized training for opportunities in protective services or law enforcement.
- Complete an internship with a government organization.
- Learn federal, state, and local job application procedures.

### 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 positions of greater responsibility.
- Obtain part-time, summer, internship, or volunteer experience in child care, schools, hospitals, camps, or overseas programs or in advocacy or service-oriented programs dealing with alcoholism, drug abuse, family violence, aging, poor, or disabled populations.
- Obtain certification in CPR, safety, and first aid for adults, children, and infants.
- Develop interest and gain experience in computers, arts, crafts, music, or physical activity.
- Obtain certification for specialized areas including Child Life Specialist or Child Advocacy.