

Social and Human Development

College of Indigenous Studies

Department of Social and Human Development (<https://uaf.edu/rural/academics/departments/social-human-development.php>)
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Department of Social and Human Development

A.A.S., Human Services

Students in the human services program receive a skills-based education in a rapidly growing field. An Associate of Applied Science in Human Services develops practitioners who are educated, ethical thinkers who can apply their knowledge to serving others in various aspects of society. Human services professionals work in a wide variety of community and social service-related settings.

The A.A.S. in human services includes a General Track for students enrolled in the online program and a Rural Human Services track for students who complete the Rural Human Services Certificate program.

The A.A.S. in human services articulates directly into the bachelor's degree in social work, providing students with an academic credential and field experience in community settings while they continue on to the bachelor's level.

The A.A.S. in human services coursework fulfills the majority of the requirements for certification as a State of Alaska Chemical Dependency Counselor or Behavioral Health Counselor as well as the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium Behavioral Health Aide certification.

Minimum Requirements for Human Services A.A.S. Degree: 60 credits

Each state has its own unique requirements for licensure or certification. If seeking a professional license or certificate in a state other than Alaska, please see the state listings on this page (<https://www.uaf.edu/provost/uaf-state-authorization/licensure.php>).

B.A., Child Development and Family Studies

This program provides the necessary preparation for early childhood professionals who wish to advance their knowledge and career opportunities with specialized study in administration, curriculum and teaching, family support or infant and toddler studies.

The child development and family studies program meets professional preparation standards developed by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. These six core standards and field experience expectations guide the CDEV B.A. program content and outline a set of common expectations for professional knowledge, skills, and dispositions within the field of early care and education in conjunction with family studies.

The program supports students who desire a strong foundation in the field of early childhood development. Students are required to complete the program major and one of the specialized concentration areas: administration within the early childhood field, curriculum and teaching, or family support. Students entering the child development and family studies

B.A. program with an A.A. or A.A.S. degree specializing in early childhood from a regionally accredited college or university will receive 20 transfer credits toward the program major. Any additional courses will need to be evaluated on an individual basis.

Flexible course delivery fosters successful completion for early childhood professionals living in both rural and urban areas of Alaska. All program and concentration area courses must be completed with a minimum C- grade or better, with the exclusion of all clinical practice coursework, which must be completed with a B grade or better. Completion of the CDEV B.A. will meet the requirements for both a major and a minor.

Minimum Requirements for Child Development and Family Studies Bachelor's Degree: 120 credits

Learn more about the bachelor's degree in child development and family studies (<https://uaf.edu/academics/programs/bachelors/child-development-family-studies.php>), including an overview of the program, career opportunities and more.

Certificate, Rural Human Services

The rural human services program is designed to develop strong and healthy rural Alaska Native individuals, families and communities. The RHS program provides entry-level training for students preparing for careers as natural helpers/healers in village-based public, private and volunteer human service organizations. The curriculum draws extensively from Indigenous knowledge and wisdom about health and well-being and reflects a strong multicultural orientation that validates, incorporates and builds on Indigenous values and principles.

The certificate program is a concentrated course of study focused on rural behavioral health services. Both the Alaska Division of Behavioral Health and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium have designated many of the credits earned through the RHS program as satisfying credentialing training requirements.

The certificate program provides training for service providers who work in related fields and would like additional training in rural behavioral health services. Providers who may want such training could include health aides, family service workers, correctional workers and teachers. The RHS program is offered as a closed cohort with monthly, week-long intensives for two academic years.

Admission is open to anyone employed by a regional Native health corporation or local entity providing village-based human services, or to individuals recognized by their communities as natural helpers/healers. A high school diploma or GED and/or previous training or work experience in the delivery of village-based human services are recommended but not required.

This degree program is delivered collaboratively within the UA system.

Minimum Requirements for Rural Human Services Certificate: 32 credits

Each state has its own unique requirements for licensure or certification. If seeking a professional license or certificate in a state other than Alaska, please see the state listings on this page (<https://www.uaf.edu/provost/uaf-state-authorization/licensure.php>).

Minor, Human Services

Students in the human services program receive a skills-based education in a rapidly growing field. Human services professionals work in a wide variety of community and social service-related settings.

The Human Services Minor provides applied coursework to augment coursework in related fields such as justice, psychology, and social work. Human Services coursework partially fulfills the requirements for certification as a State of Alaska Chemical Dependency Counselor or Behavioral Health Counselor as well as the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium Behavioral Health Aide certification. Contact the Human Services faculty advisor for additional information.

Minimum Requirements for Human Services Minor: 15 credits

Programs

Degrees

- A.A.S., Human Services (<https://catalog.uaf.edu/associates/human-services/>)
- B.A., Child Development and Family Studies (<https://catalog.uaf.edu/bachelors/child-development-family-studies-ba/>)

Certificate

- Certificate, Rural Human Services (<https://catalog.uaf.edu/certificates/rural-human-services/>)

Minor

- Minor, Human Services (<https://catalog.uaf.edu/minors/human-services/>)