

# SOCIAL AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

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## A.A.S., B.A. Degrees, Certificate, Minor

### College of Rural and Community Development

Department of Social and Human Development (<https://www.uaf.edu/rural/academics/departments/>)  
907-474-7143

### A.A.S., HUMAN SERVICES

Students in the human services program receive skills-based training within a foundation of theory. After completing foundation courses, students select an area of concentration from the following: addiction counseling, behavioral health or interdisciplinary concentration. Students learn interviewing and assessment, case management, crisis intervention, group counseling techniques and other specific skills needed within their concentration area.

The program prepares students for entry-level positions in human services agencies. Persons with a strong desire to help others, a sincere respect for humankind and a commitment to their own personal growth may find this field rewarding. They must be emotionally stable, flexible and interested in working with people of diverse social, cultural and economic backgrounds from themselves. Recovery from life traumas and addictions can be a positive attribute if the student has successfully worked through specific issues and is willing to continue personal growth.

Students who complete an addictions concentration are eligible for certification as chemical dependency counselor technicians through the Alaska Commission for Behavioral Health Certification.

Each concentration is available to B.A. degree students as a minor. Option 1: The B.A. degree student must complete the concentration and three HUMS elective credits. Concentrations provide students with the skills needed for employment. See minor requirements. Option 2: Complete HUMS-approved elective credits (18 credits of electives must be approved by the human services program head).

Minimum Requirements for Human Services A.A.S. Degree: 63 credits

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### 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, or family support.

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 Child Development and Family Studies 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 Child Development and Family Studies 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.

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### 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 additional credentials 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

Learn more about the certificate in rural human services (<https://uaf.edu/academics/programs/certificates/rural-human-services.php>), including an overview of the program, career opportunities and more.

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## **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/>)