Is Family and Child Development for You?

Texas State's College of Applied Arts Academic Advising Center is a helpful resource if you are considering a family and child development major or other family and consumer sciences major. Visit the center online at www.advising.appliedarts.txstate.edu.

Admission to Texas State

For more information on Texas State and how to apply for admission, visit www.txstate.edu/prospective.html or contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at admissions@txstate.edu or 512.245.2364.

Scholarships

Scholarships and awards are presented each spring to qualified students in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. Recipients are selected for their accomplishments in the areas of leadership, academic performance and professional potential. The scholarships are made available through the department as a result of individual, student group and employer contributions.

Texas State offers many scholarships that are open to all majors. For more information on other Texas State scholarships, visit www.finaid.txstate.edu, or contact the Financial Aid and Scholarships office at finaid@txstate.edu or 512.245.2315.



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Family and Child Development



TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY
SAN MARCOS

The rising STAR *of Texas*

A member of The Texas State University System



Family and Child Development

Do you have the desire to make a positive, lasting impact on the well-being of children and families at the local, state or national level? Are you a child and family advocate? Are you dedicated to improving the lives of children and families? Do you want to be a member of a profession that not only talks about improving lives, but also has the knowledge, skills and passion to make those improvements?

If so, come be part of the Family and Child Development (FCD) program at Texas State University-San Marcos. FCD is an integral part of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS). The FCS department is the second-largest academic department of its kind in the state and one of the largest in the nation. FCD graduates are uniquely qualified for careers in which they help families and children, contribute to society and make significant differences in the lives of children and their families.

Texas State University-San Marcos is an equal opportunity educational institution.
This information is available in alternate format upon request from the Office of Disability Services.

Degree Program and Certifications

As a family and child development major, you will work toward a bachelor of science in family and consumer sciences. Your instruction will have an interdisciplinary, cross-cultural approach with a focus on human development and relationships across the lifespan.

You also have the option of working toward four certifications:

1) Texas certification for teaching at the secondary level;
2) certification as a family life educator at one of only six Texas academic institutions accredited by the National Council on Family Relations;
3) certification as a director for early care and education programs through the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services; or,
4) certification as a child life specialist through the Child Life Council.

You will have the opportunity to observe and participate in children's learning at the Texas State Child Development Center, which is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. This accreditation signifies the center has voluntarily met the most stringent set of standards for high-quality care in the nation. The program also serves as a research and teaching practicum site, a place where you could choose to be part of cutting-edge research in the field of early care and education, including peer conflict, teaching strategies and child care teachers' work satisfaction.

Research participation opportunities, however, extend beyond the area of early care and education. Faculty members have active research agendas in such areas as family violence prevention, relationship education, adolescent identity formation, emotional intelligence and leadership, reflective teaching and kindergarten readiness. Additionally, a study-abroad program with the University of Stockholm in Sweden, offers the unique opportunity for cross-cultural comparisons of early care and education and family programs.

You will also have the advantage of participating in a 150-hour internship, which provides valuable work experience that may lead to future employment. Internship sites have included children's hospitals, early care and education settings, early childhood intervention settings, grief counseling centers and other family and child service providers. In addition, you have the option of joining the Family and Child Development Association (FCDA), a service-oriented, campus student organization for family and child development students.





Required Courses

The bachelor of science in family and consumer sciences with a major in family and child development requires a minimum of 120 credit hours (124 hours with the optional teaching certification). In addition to the university's general education core curriculum and Department of Family and Consumer Sciences core requirements, you will be required to take specialized courses, reflective of the lifespan focus of the degree, including:

- Child Guidance
- Family Relationships
- Family Policy
- Cultural Diversity
- Parent and Family Life Education
- Child Development
- Adolescent Development
- Lifespan Development
- Creative Activities for Children
- Administration of Human Service Programs
- Additional courses in special education and social work

No minor is required; however, you may add a minor that is relevant to your career interests, such as early childhood intervention to achieve early intervention specialist competencies through the Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services.

Advanced Degree

Our Department of Family and Consumer Sciences offers a master of science in family and child studies with two tracks. One track provides students with knowledge and expertise to attain professional positions and advancement opportunities in a wide variety of programs for families and children, and the second track qualifies graduate students to sit for the certification exam to become a child life specialist.

Family and Child Development Careers

- child care administrator
- early childhood intervention specialist
- program director of a nonprofit agency
- teacher of young children
- child life specialist
- family life educator
- family extension agent
- child care referral specialist
- children's museum education specialist
- child protective services worker
- women's shelter specialist
- educator of early childhood providers
- child development specialist with workforce agencies
- director of high school teen parenting programs