

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES, A.S. (ALTOONA)

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Altoona

End Campus: Altoona

Degree Requirements

For the Associate in Science degree in Human Development and Family Studies, a minimum of 60 credits is required:

Requirement	Credits
General Education	21
Electives	0-3
Requirements for the Major	51-55

15 of the 21 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 6 credits of GWS courses; 3 credits of GS courses; 3 credits of GN courses; and 3 credits of GQ courses.

Requirements for the Major

To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>).

Common Requirements for the Major (All Options)

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
CAS 100	Effective Speech	3
ENGL 15	Rhetoric and Composition	3
HDFS 395	Internship	6
PSYCH 100	Introductory Psychology	3
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
HDFS 129	Introduction to Human Development and Family Studies	3
HDFS 301	Values and Ethics in Health and Human Development Professions	3
Additional Courses		
Select one of the following:		3
BIOL 141	Introduction to Human Physiology	
BIOL 155	Introduction to the Biology of Aging	
BISC 4	Human Body: Form and Function	
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
SOC 30	Sociology of the Family (SOC 30 does not require a grade of C or better)	3
or HDFS 315	Family Development	
Select one of the following:		3-4

EDPSY 101	Analysis and Interpretation of Statistical Data in Education
STAT 100	Statistical Concepts and Reasoning
STAT 200	Elementary Statistics
Requirements for the Option	
Select an option	21-24

Requirements for the Option

Adult Development and Aging Services Option (21 credits)

Available at the following campuses: Altoona, Brandywine, DuBois, Fayette, Mont Alto, Schuylkill, Scranton, Shenango, World Campus, York

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
HDFS 249N	Adult Development and Aging	3
HDFS 311	Human Development and Family Studies Interventions	3

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Select 15 credits in consultation with the adviser from University-wide offerings that enhance competence in the option	15
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Children, Youth, and Family Services Option (24 credits)

Available at the following campuses: Altoona, Brandywine, DuBois, Fayette, Mont Alto, Schuylkill, Scranton, Shenango, World Campus, York

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
HDFS 229	Infant and Child Development	3
HDFS 239	Adolescent Development	3
HDFS 311	Human Development and Family Studies Interventions	3

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Select 15 credits in consultation with the adviser from University-wide offerings that enhance competence in the option	15
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Early Childhood Care and Education Option (24 credits)

Available at the following campuses: DuBois, Fayette, Shenango, York

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
HDFS 229	Infant and Child Development	3
HDFS 230	Overview of Curricular Practices in Early Childhood Care and Education	3
HDFS 231	Guidance in Early Childhood Care and Education	3
HDFS 232	Creativity and Play in Early Childhood Care and Education	3
HDFS 233	Emergent Language and Literacy: Development and Practice in Early Childhood Care and Education	3
HDFS 234		3
HDFS 311	Human Development and Family Studies Interventions	3
HDFS 330	Observation or Experience with Children, Youth, and Families	3

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all associate degree students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/associate-degree-general-education-program/>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Quantification (GQ):** 3 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 3 credits

Knowledge Domains

- **Arts (GA):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 3 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 3 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 3 credits

Note: Up to six credits of Inter-Domain courses may be used for any Knowledge Domain requirement, but when a course may be used to satisfy more than one requirement, the credits from the course can be counted only once.

Exploration

- **Any General Education course (including GHW and Inter-Domain):** 3 credits

University Degree Requirements

Cultures Requirement

3 credits of United States (US) or International (IL) cultures coursework are required and may satisfy other requirements

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 60 degree credits must be earned for an associates degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 60 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate->

[students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/](#))). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.