The Child and Family Services (CHFS) degree option prepares individuals for careers in providing services and leadership to children, youth, adults and their families.

Students who choose our field of study may have considered other options such as sociology or psychology . . . even youth ministry. However, this particular major is comprehensive enough to prepare you for a broad range of careers, while serving in a field where you can creatively focus on the perfect fit for your own specific interests. The course content focuses on individual development, family dynamics and interaction, policy and law, family life education, and professional skills. Students are provided critical thinking, assessment and analytical skills, and knowledge of human behavior across the lifespan. Graduates in this field find challenging and rewarding positions throughout the nation. Graduates have increasing career opportunities in urban areas and may find professional positions in government agencies focused on “at risk” groups. Many CHFS students go on to attend graduate schools (in HDFS, therapy/counseling, social work, law school, medical school or allied health). Salaries are dependent upon specialization and individual initiative.

**PROFESSIONAL TRACKS**

- Aging Services (AGES)
- Child & Parenting Practitioner (CPP)
- Early Childhood & Infant Mental Health (IMH)*
- Fine Arts/Pre-Art, Pre-Music Therapy (FINE)
- Health & Wellbeing (HWB)
- Health Professions (HP)
- Individualized Plan (IP)
- International Human Services (INTL)
- Policy & Law (LAW)
- Pre-Marriage & Family Therapy (MFT)
- Research/Graduate Studies (RES)
- Pre-Social Work/Social Welfare (SWSW)
- Youth & Family Ministry/Outreach (MIN)

**SPECIALIZED COURSES**

- Infant and Child Development
- Adolescent Development in Family Contexts
- Parenting
- Professional Skills in Human Services
- Family Risk and Resilience
- Family Dynamics
- Relationship Development and Marriage
- Policy, Law and Advocacy
- Research Methods
- Adulthood and Aging
- Dying, Death and Bereavement
- The Family: A World Perspective

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

- Health and Human Services
- Developmental Clinics
- Community Education/Service Agencies
- Private and Corporate Child Care Programs
- Head Start
- Intervention Programs
- Juvenile or Adult Probation and Parole
- Advocacy Centers
- Tribal and Government Agencies
- Parent or Family Centers

**RESOURCES**

- [NCFR](http://www.ncfr.org) National Council on Family Relations
- [American Counseling Association](http://www.counseling.org)
- [Court Appointed Special Advocates](http://www.nationalcasa.org)
- [International Federation of Social Workers](http://www.ifsw.org)
- [Child Welfare Information Gateway](http://www.childwelfare.gov)
- [Family Life Education Institute](http://www.familylifeeducation.org)
- [National Association of Social Workers](http://www.socialworkers.org)
- [American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy](http://www.aamft.org)
- [Oklahoma Association for Infant Mental Health](http://www.okaimh.org)
- [Oklahoma Family Resource Coalition](http://www.ofrc.org)

*Degree offered at OSU-Tulsa only*

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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