Human Development and Family Sciences

Human Development and Family Sciences (HDFS) explores the dynamic development and behaviors of people and families, focusing on individual and family development through one’s entire lifespan. HDFS explores these relationships not only within the intimate environment of the family, but also how a family interacts with the social, economic, community, and governmental environments.

Possible Immediate Job Titles with a Bachelor’s Degree

**Child Life Specialist**
Child life specialists are trained to help children and their families overcome challenging times. To become a child life specialist, one must have a strong background in human development and family sciences or a related field, such as education or psychology. They must also acquire the [Certified Child Life Specialist (CCLS)](https://www.childlifecouncil.org) credential, which can be obtained through the Child Life Council.

**Consumer Credit Counselor**
Consumer credit counselors review a client’s personal financial situation and give them advice on how to develop a budget, plan for expenses, and build a savings plan, typically working with both the client and creditors to establish a beneficial arrangement for both. To become a consumer credit counselor, one must have a significant background in finance, as well as the ability to effectively communicate with both clients and credit agencies.

Possible Job Titles with an Advanced Degree

**Instructional Coordinator** – **Master’s Degree Required**
Instructional coordinators oversee the curriculum being taught in schools and work to maintain proper teaching standards. To become an instructional coordinator, one must earn a master’s degree in education, or a related field. Generally, they are also required to obtain a [teaching or education administration license](https://www.tea.texas.edu). 

**Postsecondary Education Administrator** – **Master’s Degree Required**
Postsecondary education administrators typically work in admissions, and decide whether or not a particular student should be admitted to the school. To become a postsecondary education administrator, one may have a background in a number of different fields, the most common of which include social work, accounting, or marketing. It is recommended that one gains experience working in the registrar’s office or as a resident assistant while in college.

*This is not an exhaustive list of occupations and it is highly recommended you conduct informational interviews and engage in experiential learning activities to help you broaden your interest areas within your major. Please contact the Career Design Center and speak to a Career Coach for further discussion; 512-471-6700 Painter Hall (PAI) 5.03.*
Online Resources

Do you want to learn more about the human development and family sciences program at UT? Explore Wayfinder.

Is a career in human development and family sciences best for you? Explore Focus2.

Job Posting Websites

Handshake
*Handshake is Career Services’ primary job posting site, and all students should have an account to not only apply for jobs and internships, but also to stay current on upcoming events, employer information sessions and other opportunities. Create an account!

Vault

Going Global

Dice

Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services

Children’s Defense Fund

Go Government

Professional Associations

Child Life Council*

National Child Care Association

American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences*

National Rehabilitation Association

National Council on Family Relations*

American Public Health Association*

National Association for Gifted Children*

The Gerontological Society of America*

National Association for the Education of Young Children*

American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy

Community Development Society

Society for Human Resource Management*

*Association Includes a Job Database