



Pathway: Family and Social Services

Get the Facts:

The Family and Human Services field employs in a variety of settings including schools, hospitals, mental health clinics, and senior centers as well as public and private agencies that service individuals and families in need. This field helps children, youth, adults, and families address issues in their lives.

Workforce Trends:

Some of the FASTEST growing occupations in the nation are concentrated in the social services, especially those that involve working with the elderly.

A career in Social Work is expected to experience FASTER than average employment growth. Higher wages are seen working in the healthcare field. Job prospects are even better with a master's degree and licensure.

Job prospects are expected to be good for marriage and family therapists, particularly in rural areas or other communities that are underserved by mental health practitioners. This occupation is expected to experience much FASTER than average employment growth.

Family and Social Services is:

- High demand
- Medium wage

Occupation Outlook:



The Utah statewide annual median wage:



Sample Career Occupations:

- Adult Day Care Center Coordinator
- Community Service Director
- Social Worker
- Geriatric Service Worker
- Marriage and Family Therapist
- Healthcare Social Worker
- Mental Health Counselor
- Substance Use Counselor
- Long-term Care Facilitator

In Utah, most colleges and universities offer a bachelor's degree in Family Studies.

Usually a master's degree is necessary for employment as a counselor. Many schools in Utah also offer bachelor and master's degrees in Social Work.

College and Career:

There are a number of options for education and training beyond high school, depending on your career goals.

- BYU – BS Family Life-- Family Studies emphasis; Minor Gerontology
- BYUI - BS Marriage and Family Studies-- General, Professional Clinical, Home and Family Living, & Family Advocacy and Policy emphasis
- USU – BS Family, Consumer, & Human Development-- Family & Community Services emphasis; CC Gerontology
- WSU – BS Social Work; BS Gerontology; BS Family Studies
- U of U - BS Human Development and Family Studies; MS Human Development and Social Policy; Minor Gerontology.
- UVU – BS Behavioral Science-- Family Studies emphasis; BS Social Work; CP Substance Use Disorder Counseling
- SUU – BS Family Life & Human Development-- Family Services emphasis
- USU/E – BS Family Studies (online)
- SLCC – AS, AAS, and CC Family & Human Studies