

FROM COLLEGE TO CAREER IN

Child and Youth Care Practitioner

The Child and Youth Care Practitioner Certificate Program is designed for those who want to learn the skills and develop the attitudes that are needed for positions at agencies serving children and adolescents. It is also offered for those in-service personnel who want to upgrade their skills. The program offers the student the opportunity to gain theoretical and practical information to prepare for work in child-care centers, schools, and children's service agencies, and to strengthen the background brought to an employer. In addition, the certificate program is excellent preparation for continued study in education and child development. The Child and Youth Care Practitioner Certificate courses transfer into the Associate of Science in Mental Health and Human Services and the Bachelor of Science in Mental Health and Human Services.

The Child and Youth Care Practitioner Certificate Program will elevate the professional aspirations of persons who provide direct services to youth in group homes, residential treatment, shelters, juvenile corrections, foster care, day care, community outreach support, and other community based youth programs. The program will meet the standards established by the Maine Association of Group Care Providers (MAGCP). MAGCP is an affiliate of the Association of the Child & Youth Care Practice (ACYCP); a national organization committed to the development of standards of practice, a code of ethics, research, professional recognition and a national certification program.

Transferable Skills & Competencies

Social Service Skills

Representing others, advocacy
Planning programs for child and youth care development
Teaching behavioral interventions
Handling crises
Managing caseloads

Critical Thinking & Analysis

Providing educational support
Evaluating student progress
Handling student disciplinary action
Observation skills
Reviewing treatment plans
Designing programs

Communication Skills

Teaching about health and nutrition
Report writing
Instructing in safety techniques
Conducting intake interviews
Interviewing

Organizational Skills

Maintaining records
Preparing reports
Maintaining documentation
Planning and leading activities
Administering programs
Coordinating support services



The University of Maine at Augusta

with campus locations in Augusta and Bangor,
teaching to over 100 centers and sites statewide.

Careers

UMA Child and Youth Care Practitioner Certificate Program graduates have skills in several areas. The range of occupational areas is demonstrated in the list below. Some occupations listed may require additional expertise.

Health & Human Services

Child & Youth Care Program Staff
Behavioral Specialist I*
Adolescent Services
Community Support Worker
Family Support Services
Recreational Therapist*

Non-Profit Service Agencies

Group Home Provider and/or Manager
Infant Mental Health Specialist*
Program Director, Big Brothers/Big Sisters*
Family Service Worker
Volunteer Coordinator
Developmental Therapist*

Education

Family Service Worker
Special Education Technician
Early Childhood Program Staff
Community Educator
After School Program Director
Infant, Toddler Program Staff

Government

Caseworker
Parent Involvement Coordinator
Child Advocate Coordinator
Recreation Center Director*
Foster Home Supervisor

* Baccalaureate or Graduate level study is generally required for these occupations.

For More Information

College of Natural & Social Sciences
621-3275 or 1-877-UMA-1234, ext. 3275

Maine Association of Group Care Providers:
www.magcp.org
Member Agency: Association of Child & Youth Care
Practice

Academic & Career Advising Center
621-3149 or 1-877-UMA-1234, ext. 3149

Admissions & Records Office
621-3037 or 1-877-UMA-1234, ext. 3037

TTY# 1-800-316-3600
Web site: www.uma.edu