

4 Years to Career Success in Human Development and Family Studies

Choose your plan according to major:

[Click here for the following majors: Developmental and Family Science, Human Services](#)

[Click here for the following majors: Early Childhood Education and Exceptional Needs, Family and Consumer Sciences Education](#)

Majors: Developmental and Family Science, Human Services

First Year

- Explore your career goals, interests, values and skills. Write them down and discuss with your advisor, a faculty member, mentor, or a CCO career coach in the [Center for Career Opportunities, or CCO](#) to formulate your career plan.
- Utilize the [Center for Career Opportunities, or CCO](#), to create an updated resume adding your college experiences [using UPKEY](#) and ask the CCO for personalized feedback.
- Revisit your [myCareer plan activity](#) completed during STAR – talk about with my advisor.
- HDFS 10000 Plan of Study Assignment, to explore minors and areas of interests during your undergraduate degree. Actively engage in the career activities such as: informational interview, career panels
- Get to know your professors by actively participating in class and using office hours to ask questions to learn more or better understand challenging concepts and your HSFS 10000 mentor.
- Find out your Top 5 myStrengths results by attending a [Strengths 101 workshop](#). Identify your top strengths and how you can use them in your college and career success planning.
- Create [your LinkedIn profile to build a professional social media presence](#) to connect with past teacher, faculty, mentors, and professionals in the career field of interest and join groups. Ask the CCO to review and provide feedback.
- Join [student organizations](#) related to your area of interest and actively participate.
- Be mindful of your social media presence as a young professional seeking to enter the field. Use [Diligence Lab](#) to assess your current social media presence.
- If considering applying to a professional program, [explore the Careers/Learning Center and set up a meeting the Office of Pre-Professional Advising](#) to identify professional school prerequisites and admission requirement.
- Go to [career fairs and information session](#) to talk to recruiters and discuss internship and future opportunities.

Second Year

- Review your career goals and re-evaluate your interests, values and skills based on courses taken and summer experiences. Again, write them down and discuss with your advisor, a faculty member, mentor, or a CCO career coach in the [Center for Career Opportunities, or CCO](#) to update your career plan accordingly. Identify career goals for year two and inform your academic advisor.
- Check out [study abroad](#) opportunities and discuss with your academic advisor to determine how to fit into your 4 year academic plan.
- Introduce yourself to faculty and start establishing connections in department
- Review and update your resume adding new experiences, then ask the [Center for Career Opportunities, or CCO](#) for personalized feedback.
- Actively seek leadership roles on committees or the executive board in [campus organizations](#)
- Learn how to practice using your strengths in a team setting by attending a [Strengths 201 workshop](#).
- Go to [career fairs and information session](#) to talk to recruiters and discuss internship and future opportunities to gain experience in the field
- Engage and actively participate in classes with your faculty, teaching assistant, and mentor in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies.
- Identifying a mentor to work consider member of your community, on campus, or guest speakers
- If planning to go to professional program after Purdue, [schedule an appointment with the Office of Pre-Professional Advising](#) to evaluate your goals and plans to make sure you are on target (taking right courses, extracurricular orgs, competitive GPA), admissions requirements, required testing, deadlines
- Human Services/ Development and Family Science: Decide to complete the optional concentrations, start to consider what direction to go in major, what to do with elective credits (minors, certificates, etc.)
- Development and Family Science: Start planning the Capstone and how it is relevant to future goals. If doing research or study abroad, start networking with a faculty member or determine when to go on Study Abroad

Third Year

- Self-reflection assessment on career goals: what are your strengths, weakness, and what do you need to further develop? Identify a plan on how to accomplish your career goals. If you plan to graduate early, fill in any gaps with experiences. Discuss with your advisor, a faculty member, clinical instructor, mentor, or a CCO career coach in the [Center for Career Opportunities, or CCO](#) to update your career plan. Review GPA and competitive requirements for career goals.
- Update your resume with new student leadership and work experiences, then [use VMock](#) to analyze your resume for additional edits. Once updated, visit the CCO for personalized feedback.
- Keep building professional relationships with faculty members, instructors, mentor, and advisor.
- Continue to develop your leadership skills through actively participating in events, committees or executive board positions.
- Explore what your strengths means by attending a [Strengths 301 workshop](#) and learn how to use in your career plans.
- Create [your LinkedIn profile to build a professional social media presence](#) for the rest of your career and have the CCO review during a drop in.
- Review your professional social media presence using [Diligence Lab](#) to assess your current presence.
- Practice describing your experiences and strengths using [Big Interview](#), a virtual interviewing platform, for job or graduate school /professional program interviews. Then schedule a [Peer Mock Interview](#) with the CCO.
- If planning on pursuing further education in graduate school/professional program:
 - In the Spring attend [Purdue's Health Professions Expo](#) to speak with graduate schools/professional programs and learn admissions requirements.
 - In Spring or next Fall, consider [taking BIOL 39600 Pre-Health Planning Seminar](#), a 10 week course devoted to preparing for graduate school/professional program admissions.
 - Begin GRE or appropriate aptitude test preparation based on plans to attend graduate school or other professional program
 - Identify schools to apply for, check application and admission requirements
 - Identify the faculty members and working professionals in the field that can write strong professional recommendation letters citing your skills and qualifications for graduate school /professional program.
 - Update your resume into a CV focused on going to graduate school/professional program when working with the [Center for Career Opportunities, or CCO](#), the [Online Writing Lab \(OWL\)](#), and then seek feedback from your faculty mentor.
- If seeking summer/fall internships or full time employment for December graduates, attend career fairs to seek internships and to build relationship with potential future employers.

Third Year - continue

- Development and Family Science: Finalize Capstone plans. If doing research, approach faculty member for mentored research. Complete Study Abroad

Fourth Year

- Review your career goals. Re-evaluate your interests, values and skills based as you go into your final year based on courses and experiences. Discuss with your advisor, a faculty member, clinical instructor, mentor, or a career coach in the [Center for Career Opportunities, or CCO](#) to update your career plan. Review GPA and competitive requirements for further education career goals.
- Stop by a [Strengths Break](#) to chat about your Top 5 Strengths and using in the job search or apply to further education. Reflect on your top 5 Strengths and incorporate examples into your personal statement, cover letter and interview answers.
- Utilize your Strengths to write your cover letter/personal statement. Allow time to seek feedback from multiple sources: faculty member, clinical instructor, mentor, [Center for Career Opportunities](#), [Office of Pre-Professional Advising](#), and [Online Writing Lab \(OWL\)](#), as each will provide different insights.
- Reach out to faculty, clinical instructors, and mentors to ask for letters of recommendation at start of fall semester. Consider who has witnessed you demonstrate your preparedness for the academic rigor and aptitude required to successfully complete a program.
- Update [your LinkedIn profile to build a professional social media presence](#). Connect with professors, advisor, mentor, fellow students, groups, and professionals in the field to build relationships.
- Practice enhancing your skills to talk about your experiences and strengths using [Big Interview](#), a virtual interviewing platform, for job or graduate school interviews. Then schedule a [Peer Mock Interview](#).
- Update [your myCCO account](#) by uploading updated resume.
- Set up [a job search strategies appointment with a CCO career coach](#). Identify industry fields, list of companies, and career titles in your target area of interest. Use your LinkedIn and Purdue alumni network to build your relationships through informational interviews and connect with people in the desired geographical location. Use information to create your list of job boards, list of target company websites, and [set up myCCO job search alerts](#).
- Attend [on campus](#)/virtual career fairs and information sessions to meet with employers needing candidates with your acquired skill set. Research to see who will attend.
- Starting reaching out to professionals in the area to build and establish professional relationships. (HDFS 36000, HDFS 44400)
- Human Services: Take HDFS 45400 to prepare for internships, prepare to be successful in the internship (secured housing, finances set up, no other outside commitments)

Fourth Year - continue

- Development and Family Science: Take HDFS 45400 to prepare for internship, if doing mentored research, work with faculty member to complete abstract and research project.

Plan for Early Childhood Education and Exceptional Needs, Family and Consumer Sciences Education Majors

First Year

- Explore your career goals, interests, values and skills. Write them down and discuss with your advisor, a faculty member, mentor, or a CCO career coach in the [Center for Career Opportunities, or CCO](#) to formulate your career plan.
- Utilize the [Center for Career Opportunities, or CCO](#), to create an updated resume adding your college experiences [using UPKEY](#) and ask the CCO for personalized feedback.
- Revisit your [myCareer plan activity](#) completed during STAR – talk about with my advisor.
- HDFS 10000 Plan of Study Assignment, to explore minors and areas of interests during your undergraduate degree. Actively engage in the career activities such as: informational interview, career panels
- Get to know your professors by actively participating in class and using office hours to ask questions to learn more or better understand challenging concepts and your HSFS 10000 mentor.
- Find out your Top 5 myStrengths results by attending a [Strengths 101 workshop](#). Identify your top strengths and how you can use them in your college and career success planning.
- Create [your LinkedIn profile to build a professional social media presence](#) to connect with past teacher, faculty, mentors, and professionals in the career field of interest and join groups. Ask the CCO to review and provide feedback.
- Join [student organizations](#) related to your area of interest and actively participate.
- Be mindful of your social media presence as a young professional seeking to enter the field. Use [Diligence Lab](#) to assess your current social media presence.
- If considering applying to a professional program, [explore the Careers/Learning Center and set up a meeting the Office of Pre-Professional Advising](#) to identify professional school prerequisites and admission requirement.
- Go to [career fairs and information session](#) to talk to recruiters and discuss internship and future opportunities.
- Explore career paths in [extension education](#)
- Family and Consumer Science Education:
 - Take EDCI 250 Fall and Spring,
 - Start involvement with professional organization like [Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, or FCCLA](#)
 - Understand and start to accumulate your 1500 clock hours for Teacher Education Licensure

Second Year

- Review your career goals and re-evaluate your interests, values and skills based on courses taken and summer experiences. Again, write them down and discuss with your advisor, a faculty member, mentor, or a CCO career coach in the [Center for Career Opportunities, or CCO](#) to update your career plan accordingly. Identify career goals for year two and inform your academic advisor.
- Check out [study abroad](#) opportunities and discuss with your academic advisor to determine how to fit into your 4 year academic plan.
- Introduce yourself to faculty and start establishing connections in department
- Review and update your resume adding new experiences, then ask the [Center for Career Opportunities, or CCO](#) for personalized feedback.
- Actively seek leadership roles on committees or the executive board in [campus organizations](#)
- Learn how to practice using your strengths in a team setting by attending a [Strengths 201 workshop](#).
- Go to [career fairs and information session](#) to talk to recruiters and discuss internship and future opportunities to gain experience in the field
- Engage and actively participate in classes with your faculty, teaching assistant, and mentor in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies.
- Identifying a mentor to work consider member of your community, on campus, or guest speakers.
- Early Childhood Education and Exceptional Needs:
 - 1st professional semester,
 - Consider involvement in [professional early childhood organizations](#)
 - Prepare for admittance to teacher education, testing preparation, and attend spring Teacher Education Recruitment Day Job Fair.
- Family and Consumer Science Education:
 - Decide on which concentration to pursue, leadership involvement with the [Indiana AAFCAS](#), (American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences) or the National [AAFCAS](#).
 - Prepare for admittance to teacher education, test preparation, and attend spring Teacher Education Recruitment Day Job Fair.
 - Evaluate where you are in your clock hours and create a plan to progress on your 1500 hours towards Teacher Education Licensure.

Third Year

- Self-reflection assessment on career goals: what are your strengths, weakness, and what do you need to further develop? Identify a plan on how to accomplish your career goals. If you plan to graduate early, fill in any gaps with experiences. Discuss with your advisor, a faculty member, clinical instructor, mentor, or a CCO career coach in the [Center for Career Opportunities, or CCO](#) to update your career plan. Review GPA and competitive requirements for career goals.

Third Year - continue

- Update your resume with new student leadership and work experiences, then [use VMock](#) to analyze your resume for additional edits. Once updated, visit the CCO for personalized feedback.
- Keep building professional relationships with faculty members, instructors, mentor, and advisor.
- Continue to develop your leadership skills through actively participating in events, committees or executive board positions.
- Explore what your strengths means by attending a [Strengths 301 workshop](#) and learn how to use in your career plans.
- Create [your LinkedIn profile to build a professional social media presence](#) for the rest of your career and have the CCO review during a drop in.
- Review your professional social media presence using [Diligence Lab](#) to assess your current presence.
- Practice describing your experiences and strengths using [Big Interview](#), a virtual interviewing platform, for job or graduate school /professional program interviews. Then schedule a [Peer Mock Interview](#) with the CCO.
- If planning on pursuing further education in graduate school:
 - Begin GRE or appropriate aptitude test preparation based on plans to attend graduate school or other professional program
 - Identify schools to apply for, check application and admission requirements
 - Identify the faculty members and working professionals in the field that can write strong professional recommendation letters citing your skills and qualifications for graduate school.
 - Update your resume into a CV focused on going to graduate school/professional program when working with the [Center for Career Opportunities, or CCO](#), or the [Online Writing Lab \(OWL\)](#), and then seek feedback from your faculty mentor.
- If seeking summer/fall internships or full time employment for December graduates, attend career fairs to seek internships and to build relationship with potential future employers.
- Continue to complete testing, maintain GPA for Teacher Education requirements, work with program coordinator on potential student teaching placement.
- Family and Consumer Science Education: Evaluate where you are in your clock hours and create a plan to progress on your 1500 hours towards Teacher Education Licensure.

Fourth Year

- Review your career goals. Re-evaluate your interests, values and skills based as you go into your final year based on courses and experiences. Discuss with your advisor, a faculty member, clinical instructor, mentor, or a career coach in the [Center for Career Opportunities, or CCO](#) to update your career plan. Review GPA and competitive requirements for further education career goals.
- Stop by a [Strengths Break](#) to chat about your Top 5 Strengths and using in the job search or apply to further education. Reflect on your top 5 Strengths and incorporate examples into your personal statement, cover letter and interview answers.
- Utilize your Strengths to write your cover letter/personal statement. Allow time to seek feedback from multiple sources: faculty member, clinical instructor, mentor, [Center for Career Opportunities](#) and [Online Writing Lab \(OWL\)](#), as each will provide different insights.
- Reach out to faculty, clinical instructors, and mentors to ask for letters of recommendation at start of fall semester. Consider who has witnessed you demonstrate your preparedness for the academic rigor and aptitude required to successfully complete a program.
- Update [your LinkedIn profile to build a professional social media presence](#). Connect with professors, advisor, mentor, fellow students, groups, and professionals in the field to build relationships.
- Practice enhancing your skills to talk about your experiences and strengths using [Big Interview](#), a virtual interviewing platform, for job or graduate school interviews. Then schedule a [Peer Mock Interview](#).
- Update [your myCCO account](#) by uploading updated resume.
- Set up [a job search strategies appointment with a CCO career coach](#). Identify industry fields, list of companies, and career titles in your target area of interest. Use your LinkedIn and Purdue alumni network to build your relationships through informational interviews and connect with people in the desired geographical location. Use information to create your list of job boards, list of target company websites, and [set up myCCO job search alerts](#).
- Reach out to professionals in the area you want to work to establish professional relationships
- Attend the Spring [Teacher Recruitment Day](#) to meet with school corporations and employers hiring candidates.