



Supporting Military Families Through
Research and Outreach



Youth Workers' Professional Development: The Importance of Youth Development Certificate Programs

School-Age Child Care Credential Addition

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Research

Outreach

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Youth Workers' Professional Development: The Importance of Youth Development Certificate Programs

School-Age Child Care Credential Addition

Submitted by:

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The University of Minnesota

Military REACH, a project of the DoD-USDA Partnership for Military Families, utilizes a multi-disciplinary approach integrating both Research and Outreach to support those who work with and on behalf of military families. Through our three-fold approach, we provide empirical research that identifies and addresses key issues impacting military families and the programs that serve them, offer outreach and professional development through online resources, and host a Live Learning Lab for program staff seeking constructive professional development feedback for their programs.

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School-Age Child and Youth Development Credentials

Overview

School-age care and youth development programs are designed to meet young people's social, emotional, and intellectual needs by providing safe places and enriching experiences outside of the school day. Within models of child and youth development (e.g., Benson, 2006; Bronfenbrenner & Morris, 2006), there is recognition of the impact of non-parental adults on children's outcomes.

School-age care and youth development workers are well-positioned to play an important role in the lives of children during their out-of-school activities.

The phrase "school-age" typically refers to children who are 5 to 12 years old (Hall & Cassidy, 2002) while "youth" typically refers to adolescents who are 10 to 20 years old (Benson, Scales, & Syvertsen, 2011); therefore, school-age care credentials and youth development certificates are usually aimed at professionals who work with young people in these same age groups. Training for school-age care and youth development workers is vital in order to provide effective and competent services (Eckles et al., 2009).



Many of the competencies (e.g., child development, multiculturalism and diversity) needed to work with school-age children overlap with training for early childhood and youth program workers.

Although school-age care credentials are designed for professionals who work with children during middle childhood, many of the competencies (e.g., child development, multiculturalism and diversity) needed to work with school-age children overlap with training for early childhood and youth program workers (Mattingly, Stuart, & VanderVen, 2010; National Early Childhood Program Accreditation, 2016). However, there are developmental issues and concerns (e.g., increasing independence in self-care, growing complexity in peer relationships) unique to children and youth in middle and late childhood that workers will need to know. The following section highlights the core knowledge and competencies the National Afterschool Alliance (NAA) recommends for school-age care and youth development workers.



General Standards and Competencies

Staff Competencies. The National AfterSchool Association (NAA) has put forth ten areas of core knowledge and competencies as standard content areas in which school-age care and youth development workers are expected to develop expertise. The core knowledge and competencies areas include: child and youth growth and development; learning environment and curriculum; child and youth observation and assessment; interactions with children and youth; youth engagement; cultural competency and responsiveness; family, school, and community relationships; safety and wellness; program planning and development; and professional development and leadership (National AfterSchool Association, 2011). Each are described in more detail:

Offering credentials and certificates is a way to acknowledge that individuals have fulfilled particular requirements and expectations within a certain area.

- **Child and youth growth and development** refers to knowing key developmental milestones and commonly shared experiences and applying this knowledge within a school-age care or youth program.
- **Learning environments and curriculum** describes professionals who create a high-quality program that supports learning through age-appropriate activities.
- **Child and youth observation and assessment** relates to professionals who apply observation and assessment techniques to meet children's and youth's needs.
- **Interactions with children and youth** refers to the relationships and communications between professionals and children and youth as well as the strategies professionals employ, individually and collectively, to develop positive emotions, skills, and experiences among children and youth.
- **Youth engagement** means professionals collaborate with children and youth to nurture children's and youth's leadership and voice.
- **Cultural competency and responsiveness** indicates that professionals respect and embrace diversity and create a welcoming, inclusive environment.
- **Family, school, and community relationships** relates to building respectful and reciprocal relationships across multiple settings and among children, youth, families, and community members.
- **Safety and wellness** describes when professionals ensure children's and youth's safety and wellness by implementing various health and safety practices.
- **Program planning and development** refers to supporting staff, building healthy relationships with colleagues and families, utilizing appropriate practices, and accessing available resources.
- **Professional development and leadership** describes professionals who act ethically, participate in continuous learning, and advocate for best practices and policies for children and youth.

School-age care and youth development professionals enter the field with different skill levels that depend on their past work experiences, education, and training. Offering credentials and certificates is a way to acknowledge that individuals have fulfilled particular requirements and expectations within a certain area. Moreover, the aforementioned list of core knowledge and competencies provides school-care and youth programs a framework based on national standards with which to create professional development curricula and assessment tools.



Summary of Credentialing Opportunities

There are numerous opportunities for school-age care and youth development workers to obtain credentials or certificates that document their knowledge and competencies. However, **there are no nationally accepted credentials or certificates in school-age care or youth development.** Despite there being no nationally accepted or recognized credentials or certificates in either school-age care or youth development, managers and workers in school-age care and youth development programs have two main options to document workers' skills and abilities or to participate in training(s) to build knowledge and competencies which are certification or credentials (see Table 1 in the Appendix for a review of available certificate and/or credentialing opportunities).

There are **no** nationally accepted credentials or certificates in school-age care or youth development.

Certification

Managers or workers submit an application that is accompanied by a portfolio of their previous work experience in the form of assessments, work samples, and references. Managers and workers also complete an exam to demonstrate a high level of proficiency in competencies related to school-age care and youth development. Once the portfolio is approved by a certification board or organization the individual becomes a certified school-age care or youth development professional.

Credential

Managers or workers complete a training sponsored by a program or department at an accredited college or university (see Table 1 in the Appendix for a list of other universities and colleges who offer credentials through non-degree seeking programs) or a training hosted by an organization or company. The trainings are comprised of courses that lead to a credential or certificate and vary in requirements; however, most trainings include topics that encompass the NAA general standards and competencies.

Conclusion

There are several options for school-age care and youth development workers to engage in professional development to increase their ability to provide high-quality services to children and youth. Like previously mentioned, there is **no** nationally accepted credential or certificate in school-age care or youth development. As such, managers and workers within the school-age care and youth development fields would likely benefit from a credential or certificate that is portable and based on universally accepted competencies (i.e., NAA general standards).

Trainings are comprised of coursework that vary in requirements; however, most include topics that encompass the NAA general standard and competencies.



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Appendix

Table 1. Non-Profit and Other Organization Offerings: Youth Development and Afterschool Certificates and Credentials

Non-Profit or Other Organization	Title of Certificate/ Credential	Additional details (audience, content, focus areas)	Curriculum Outline	Basis of Curriculum	Length to complete (credits, classes, hours)	Delivery Format	Cost
State-based							
State of Michigan https://misayd.gennet.us/about.htm	Michigan School-Age Youth Development Certificate and Credential (MiSAYD)	<p>Designed for all people working with children and youth in out-of-school time programs.</p> <p>Certificate includes basic competencies that workers should know and be able to do; the credential expands on the certificate. The credential requires additional training and experience, as well as assessment and a portfolio that demonstrates the candidate's knowledge and skills.</p>	<p>From the Michigan School-Age Youth Development Core Knowledge and Competencies Self-Assessment Checklist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Child/Youth Growth and Development -Learning Environments and Curriculum -Child/Youth Observation and Assessment -Interactions with Children and Youth -Youth Engagement -Cultural Competency and Responsivity -Family, School, and Community Relationships -Safety and Wellness -Program Planning and Development -Professional Development and Leadership 	National AfterSchool Association Core Knowledge and Competencies for Afterschool and Youth Development Professionals	<p>Certificate: -Complete 40 hours or training related to Level 1 of the NAA Core Competencies -Document 240 hours of field experience</p> <p>Credential: -Document 120 hours of related training and education related to Levels 1 and 2 of the 10 content areas of the NAA Core Competencies -Document 480 hours of field experience -Complete field observations, two assessments, a portfolio, and resource materials -Be observed by an external assessor</p>	Varies by education and training options chosen	Not available
Big Brothers/Big Sister of New York City http://www.bigsny.org/MSCP	The Mentoring Supervisor Certificate Program (MSCP)	Created and administered together with the Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service, this program is for youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth & Family Resiliency - Adolescent Development - Working with Parents and Guardians 	Not available	16- two-hour courses	On site	\$1,515

		practitioners and social service professionals to assist in developing, implementing, expanding or improving a mentoring program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Volunteer Recruitment - Volunteer Screening: Tools and Techniques - Dimensions of Diversity - Interviewing Skills 				
Vermont Northern Lights Career Development Center http://northernlightscdc.org/career-pathways/credentials-and-certificates/afterschool-foundations-certificate/	Vermont Afterschool Foundations certificate	Recognizes staff who gain foundational knowledge and skills in the 5 core knowledge areas. Typically it is achieved during their first two years working in an afterschool program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Child & Youth Development -Curriculum & Learning Environment -Families & Communities -Healthy & Safe Environments -Professionalism & Program Organization 	Not available	16 hours training & two years working in an afterschool program	On-site	Not available
DC Children and Youth Investment Trust http://cyitc.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/CEYD-Winter-Spring-2014-Trainings.pdf	The Certificate of Completion in Youth Development	Certificate of Completion includes acknowledgement on the DC Children and Youth Investment Trust Website, an incentive for completion and plaque.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Advancing Youth Development -Navigating Youth Culture -Child and Youth Developmental Stages -Solution-Focused Brief Therapy -Conflict Resolution / Management -CPR/First Aid 	Not available	12 or more core courses	On-site	Not available
City of Hartford Youth Division http://youthworkcentral.org/	Youth Development Practitioner Academy (YDPA)	Promotes best practices and professional standards in the field of positive youth development. The program consists of nine 12-hour courses that meet every Wednesday from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon in a central location and require reading and written assignments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Principles of youth development -Effective communication with youth and families -Youth empowerment -Program development and management -Legal and ethical issues -Cultural competencies, -Adolescent sexual and reproductive health 	Not available	8 classes, total of 32 hours	On-site	\$350

<p>Indiana Youth PRO Association</p> <p>http://www.indianaafterschool.org/quality/higher-education-pathways/</p>	<p>Indiana Youth Development Credential (IYD)</p>	<p>Professional certification for those who work with school-age or adolescent children. Like the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential for early childhood workers, the IYD Credential provides a way to demonstrate knowledge and skills suitable to working with older children. Assessment, documentation and awarding of the credential are administered by the Indiana Youth PRO Association (formerly School-Age Consortium).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Child/youth development -Families and communities -Program environment -Program content -Professionalism. 	<p>Not available</p>	<p>Not available</p>	<p>On-site</p>	<p>Not available</p>
<p>After School Works</p> <p>http://www.afterschoolworksny.org/training_options.html</p>	<p>New York State School Age Care Credential</p>	<p>Promotes quality services to children and families by providing specific standards, training, and evaluation for afterschool professionals. Training for the credential is available via face-to-face programs that are offered by local host agencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Learn how to meet children's needs -Reduce challenging behaviors -Network with other professionals 	<p>Not available</p>	<p>Not available</p>	<p>Online</p>	<p>Not available</p>
<p>Pennsylvania Key</p> <p>http://www.pakeys.org/pages/get.aspx?page=Programs_SchoolAge</p>	<p>Pennsylvania School-age Professional Credential</p>	<p>Promotes quality services for children and families by providing specific standards, professional development and</p>	<p>Focuses on a series of goals that include how best to help youth and be prepared for issues that may arise as a youth worker</p>	<p>Not available</p>	<p>120 hours</p>	<p>Not available</p>	<p>Not available</p>

		evaluation of school-age practitioners					
Other							
<p>Youth Worker Central</p> <p>http://youthworkcentral.org/best-initiative/best-training-institute/</p>	<p>BEST Training Institute Youth Worker Certificate Training; also offers advanced certifications (Level 2 Youth Worker Certificate Training)</p>	<p>Provides youth workers with grounding in the youth development approach. Trainings employ a facilitative training approach that blends participatory learning, interactive and experiential exercises, and connects concepts to practice.</p>	<p>Initial certificate includes introductions to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Common language for discussing youth development -Locally identified core competencies -Childhood and adolescent development -Cultural competence -Gender and cultural sensitivity -Positive youth outcomes -Youth stereotyping -Healthy relationships and boundaries -Youth workers as community resources <p>Level 2 Certificate includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Building youth participation and leadership -Intentional programming toward developmental outcomes -Facilitation skills for youth workers 	<p>Nationally recognized Advancing Youth Development Curriculum</p>	<p>Initial certificate: 8 sessions; 32 hours</p> <p>Level 2 certificate: 5 sessions; 20 hours</p>	<p>In person</p>	<p>Not available</p>
<p>Child & Youth Care Certification Board</p> <p>https://cycCB.org/</p>	<p>Child & Youth Care Certification</p>	<p>Provides an assessment process and certification to individuals who demonstrate their commitment to high standards of care and commitment to ongoing professional development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Professional Ethics and Regulation - Brain-based Guidance Techniques - Assessment and Documentation - Communication - Developmentally Based Programming - Relationship Development - Group Work 	<p>Council of Accreditation</p>	<p>Eight 5-hour modules</p>	<p>On-site or online</p>	<p>Not available</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Activity Development and Leadership - Supervising Children and Youth - Cultural Diversity 				
<p>After School Accelerators: Social & Emotional Learning</p> <p>http://www.sprocketssaintpaul.org/sites/sprocketssaintpaul.org/files/news/ASA_SEL%20cohort%20application_2015%20final_0.pdf</p>	Social & Emotional Learning Youth Development Certificate	Practitioners will receive a Social & Emotional Learning Youth Development Certificate from PEAR. This 'train the trainer' certificate allows practitioners to train other youth-serving practitioners, in schools and youth organizations, on socio-emotional learning and the use of the HSA tool in supporting social and emotional assets.	Three multi-day training sessions (a total of nine training days) and monthly webinars, individual coaching sessions or meetings over the course of the year. Participants will regularly engage with researchers, faculty and practitioners from PEAR at Harvard Medical School and McLean Hospital.	Collaborated with College of Education and Human Development's Family Social Science Department at the University of Minnesota and Youthprise's Youth Participatory Action Research team (YPAR).	One year	On-site	Various
<p>National Safe Place Network</p> <p>https://www.nspnetwork.org/child-youth-care-certification</p>	Child and Youth Care Certification	Offers the "Child and Youth Care: Foundations" course and certification exam.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Introduction to Professional CYC Practice - Professional Ethics and Regulation - Brain-based Guidance Techniques - Assessment and Documentation - Communication - Developmentally-based Programming 	Not available	Eight 5-hour modules	On-site	\$600
<p>Celebrate Life International</p> <p>http://t111.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/ydp-description.pdf</p>	Youth Development Professional™ Certification	Instructor led course that satisfies all classroom instruction hours required by YDP.. Includes post-class coaching and knowledge application	Not available	Not available	3 day "boot camp"	On-site	Not available

<p>OTEN – Open Training and Education Network</p> <p>https://www.seeklearning.com.au/providers/oten/courses/certificate-iv-in-youth-work</p>	<p>Certificate IV in Youth Work</p>	<p>Prepares people to be qualified as a Community and Development Worker (Youth) Youth and Family Resource Officer Youth Case Worker Recreational Activities Worker</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communicating effectively with young people - Building and maintaining relationships - Assisting young people to identify the challenges and opportunities in their lives. 	<p>Not available</p>	<p>160 hours</p>	<p>Online</p>	<p>Not available</p>
<p>Council for Professional Recognition</p> <p>http://www.cdacouncil.org/about/the-council</p>	<p>Military School-Age Credential</p>	<p>Promotes quality service to parents and children by providing specific standards, training, and evaluation for Military School-Age teachers, staff members, and Family Child Care providers.</p>	<p>Not available</p>	<p>Not available</p>	<p>Varies by institution</p>	<p>Varies by institution</p>	<p>Not available</p>

Table 2. Institutions of Higher Education Offerings: School-Age Credentials and Youth Development Certificates

Institution of Higher Education	Title of Certificate/ Credential	Additional details (audience, content, focus areas)	Curriculum Outline	Basis of Curriculum	Length to complete (credits, classes, hours)	Delivery Format	Cost
Post-High School Certificates (non-degree seeking - do not need to be enrolled in an associate's, bachelor's, or graduate level program)							
University of Minnesota, Military REACH https://reachmilitaryfamilies.umn.edu/	Youth Development Learning Modules	This training is for youth workers who work with youth ages 9-18 years and who want to improve their ability to create safe and supportive youth programs that provide youth with adaptive skills and knowledge.	Topics of modules include: - Physical and Psychological Safety - Appropriate Structure - Opportunities to Belong - Opportunities for Skill Building	Eccles & Gootman (2002) <i>Community Practices for Promoting Positive Youth Development</i>	9 modules	Online	No cost
Charter Oak State College https://www.charteroak.edu/certificates/after-school-education-credential.cfm	After School Education Credential	In collaboration with the Connecticut After School Network and the Connecticut Charts-A-Course, this credential is designed for youth professionals who work with children ages 5-15 years outside of school hours.	Coursework includes: -Introduction to After School Care and Education -Program Environment & Curriculum Development in After School Education -Child and Adolescent Development -Supervision and Leadership in After School Education	Not available	Four online courses and 240 hours of documented experience	Online classes, in-person practicum	Not available
Clark University http://www.clarku.edu/certificate-youth-work-practice-requirements	Youth Work Practice Certificate	Certificate is designed for aspiring, novice, and expert youth workers.	Coursework includes: - Fundamentals of Youth Work -Youth Work: Everyday Practice and Social Justice -Reflection and Deliberate Practice -Community Program Evaluation -Youth and Community Development	Not available	6 units/courses	Not available	\$6,000
Community College of Philadelphia http://www.ccp.edu/college-catalog/degree-and-certificate-programs/proficiency-certificates/youth-work-proficiency	Youth Work Proficiency Certificate	Certificate is designed to teach students how to work with youth in a variety of youth-serving agencies such as community centers, group homes, after-school programs, and mental health clinics.	-Foundations of Youth Work (3 credits) -Family and Community Engagement (3 credits) -Critical Issues in Youth Work (3 credits)	Not available	9 credits	Not available	Not available

Eastern University, Federation of Neighborhood Centers http://phennd.org/update/youth-development-certificate-program/	Youth Development Certificate	Certificate is designed to provide essential knowledge and skills for urban youth development professionals.	Not available	Not available	Four classes (8 credit hours) that can be completed in one year	Not available	Not available (scholarships available)
Gateway Community College http://www.gatewayct.edu/Programs-Courses/Divisions-Departments/Human-Services/Youth-Worker	Youth Worker Certificate	Prepares youth professionals to assist youth, colleagues, organizations, and communities.	Mix of seminar courses and field experience (no description available)	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
Harold Washington College http://faculty.ccc.edu/colleges/hwashington/appscience/programs/YouthWork.html	Youth Work Certificates (Basic and Advanced)	Certificate is designed for anyone working with young people in out-of-school time and youth programs (e.g., after-school instructors, school-age workers, grassroots youth workers, community activities, outreach workers, probation officers, prevention specialists, teen reach workers, managers, and supervisors).	Basic & Advanced Certificate: -Principles of Youth and Group Work (3 credits) -Social Problems and Social Action (3 credits) -Practicum in Youth Work (6 credits) -Report Writing in Social Work (3 credits) Advanced Certificate: -Human Growth and Development 1 (4 credits) -Human Growth and Development 2 (3 credits) -Introduction to Group Process (3 credits) -Introduction to Addition Studies (3 credits)	Not available	Basic: 4 courses, 15 credits Advanced: 8 courses, 28 credits	Not available	Not available
Ivy Tech Community College https://www.ivytech.edu/human-services/	Indiana Youth Development Professional Certificate	Certificate is designed for workforce preparation.	-Introduction to Human Services (3 credits) -Helping Relationship Techniques (3 credits) -Interviewing and Assessment (3 credits) -Child and Youth Development (3 credits) -Family and Community in Youth Work (3 credits) -Internship (3 credits) -Content and Curriculum in Youth Work (3 credits) -Development of the Youth Professional (3 credits)	Not available	24 credits (3 semesters)	Not available	Not available

Metropolitan State University of Denver http://catalog.msudenver.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=2&poid=297&returnto=70	High Risk Youth Studies Certificate	Certificate is designed to help professionals expand their base of knowledge about current practices for the prevention, intervention, and treatment of high-risk youth in a wide variety of high-risk youth practice settings.	-High-Risk and Offender Youth -Survey of the High-Risk Youth Integrated Services and Treatment Network -Multicultural Issues in Human Services -The Resistant Adolescent Client -Languages for the Professionals - Variable Topics (elective)	Not available	16 hours	Not available	Not available
NortONline (University of Arizona) https://nortonline.arizona.edu/child-and-youth-development-certificate	Child and Youth Development Certificate	Certificate is designed for those interested in working with children and youth in school or community settings including: childcare centers, youth programs, schools, military bases, tribal reservations, faith-based organizations, and informal program settings.	Not available	Not available	5 classes (4 foundation courses and 1 special topics course)	Completely online	Not available
Penn State, Brandywine http://brandywine.psu.edu/certificate-youth-development-and-social-justice	Certificate of Youth Development and Social Justice	Certificate is designed to help counselors, educators, family therapists, social workers, and other professionals understand the unique challenges facing adolescents.	-Adolescent Development (3 credits) -Juvenile Delinquency (3 credits) -Juvenile Corrections in Global Perspective (3 credits) Choose 9 credits from: -Social Problems (3 credits) -Values and Ethics in Health and Human Development Professions (3 credits) -Communities and Families (3 credits) -The Helping Relationship (3 credits) -Resolving Human Development and Family Problems (3 credits) -Development Problems in Childhood and Adolescence (3 credits) -Developmental Transition to Adulthood (3 credits) -Juvenile Justice System (3 credits)	Not available	18 credits	Not available	Not available
Phoenix College https://www.phoenixcollege.edu/programs/family-development/adolescent-studies-ccl	Certificate of Completion in Adolescent Studies	Certificate is designed for students preparing to work or those presently employed in professions that require	-De-mystifying Adolescence (1 credit) -Marriage and Family Life (3 credits)	Not available	12 credits (6 classes)	Not available	Not available

		interaction with youth (school personnel, organization leaders, law enforcement personnel, religious leaders, parks and recreational staff, case managers, health educators, outreach workers, and parents).	-Parenting the Early Adolescent: Ages 10-14 (1 credit) -Contemporary Issues in Adolescence (3 credits) -Adolescent-Adult Interaction (3 credits) -Adolescent School Success (1 credit)				
Rochester Community and Technical College http://www.rctc.edu/program/yw/program_plans.cfm	Youth Work Certificate	Certificate is designed to prepare youth workers to assist youth, colleagues, organizations, and communities.	-Seeing Children and Youth (3 credits) -Introduction to Youth Work (3 credits) -Experiential Learning (4 credits) -Child and Youth Issues (4 credits) -Child Development Electives (3 credits)	Coursework links developmental theory, recent brain research, and best practices.	17 credits	Not available	Not available
Rutgers (The State University of New Jersey) http://catalogs.rutgers.edu/generated/nb-ug_current/pg862.html	Certificate in Professional Youth Work	Certificate is designed to prepare youth workers to address complex problems in youth, family, and community services.	Research in the Discipline (3 credits) -Introduction to Professional Youth Work (1 credit) OR Exploring Teaching as a Profession (3 credits) -Administration and Management of Youth Agencies (3 credits) -Educational Psychology: Principles of Classroom Learning (3 credits) -Practicum in Professional Youth Work (3 credits) Electives (6 credits): -Psychology of the Family (3 credits) -Adolescent Development (3 credits) -Minority Groups in American Society (3 credits) -Sociology of Education (3 credits) -Sociology of the Family (3 credits) -Environmental Education in the School Curriculum (3 credits)	Not available	19-21 credits	Not available	Not available

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Research Methods in Human Ecology (3 credits) -Individual, Marriage, and the Family (3 credits) -Nutrition for the Developing Child (3 credits) -Nutrition for the Child in Family and Community (3 credits) 				
<p>St. Petersburg College</p> <p>https://go.spcollege.edu/Youth_Development_Professional_Certificate/#tab=1</p>	Youth Development Professional Certificate	Certificate is designed for youth work professionals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Developmental Psychology of the Lifespan (3 credits) -Principles and Strategies for Human Services (3 credits) -Introduction to Intra- and Interpersonal Processes (3 credits) -Principles and Best Practices in Afterschool Programs (3 credits) -Foundations of Youth Development (3 credits) -Dynamics of Groups and Group Counseling (3 credits) -Studies in Behavioral Modification (3 credits) -Building Stronger Families and Communities (3 credits) -Co-op Work Experience in Human Services (3 credits) -General Psychology (3 credits) 	Not available	30 credits and takes 3 terms to complete.	Not available	Not available
<p>Tulsa Community College</p> <p>http://www.tulsacc.edu/programs-and-courses/academic-programs/child-development-certificate-mastery</p>	Child/Youth Development Certificate of Mastery	Certificate is designed to prepare youth workers for positions in out-of-school services, youth groups, and summer programs; also designed to meet the requirements for the REWARD Oklahoma Supplement Scale.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Development Courses (required) -Establishing the Environment -Mission and Procedures -Emotional Development and Guidance -Professional Management -Educational Support -Professional Development and Program Recognition -Developing Community -Program Quality and Risk Management <p>Child Development Courses (choose one):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Child Development in the Lifespan -Child Development and Parenting 	Not available	22 credit hours	Not available	Not available

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Child Guidance -Introduction to Child Care Management -Middle Childhood Foundations -Children with Special Needs -Professionalism & Leadership in Early Care & Education -Composition I 				
<p>University of Connecticut</p> <p>http://www.familydevelopmentcredential.org/Plugs/default.aspx</p>	Family Development Credential	Credential is designed to provide direct-service workers with the knowledge and skills they need to coach families to set and reach their own goals for healthy self-reliance in their communities.	Workers complete an Independent Learning Project for each of the five chapters of the Empowerment Skills for Leaders Series in collaboration with a colleague who serves as a peer advisor. They prepare a Leadership Empowerment Plan in collaboration with a peer advisor and implement the plan for one month. Prepare a reflection on the progress and outcome of the plan describing steps taken, challenges encountered, and any future actions to take.	Not available	90 hours	On-site	\$1,135.00
<p>Dean College</p> <p>http://infohub.dean.edu/sports-youth-development-certificate-program</p>	Certificate in Sport-Based Youth Development	Certificate is designed to teach professionals how to integrate intentional youth development concepts into sport-focused youth programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administration of Sport-Based Youth Development Program - Sport Pedagogy - Coaching Techniques & Practice - Sport in Society - Applied Capstone Project 	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
<p>Delta College</p> <p>http://www.delta.edu/programs/current/human-services/social-services/youth-services/certificate/details.html</p>	Youth Services - Advanced Certificate	Certificate provides current and future youth workers with the skills needed to work with juveniles in many different settings. The program is geared toward human services field and study areas focus on family dynamics and juvenile delinquency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Juvenile Offender - General Psychology - Child Psychology - Adolescent Psychology - Principles of Sociology - Social Problems - Sociology of Minority Groups - Marriage and Family - Cultural Anthropology - Introduction to Social Work Interviewing, Counseling, and the Helping Relationship 	Not available	34 credits	In-person	Not available
<p>Delta College</p>	Youth Services - Certificate of Achievement	Certificate provides current and future youth workers with the skills needed to work with juveniles in many	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Juvenile Offender - General Psychology - Child Psychology - Principles of Sociology 	Not available	22 credits	In-person	Not available

http://www.delta.edu/programs/current/human-services/social-services/youth-services/certificate/index.html		different settings. The program is geared toward human services field and study areas focus on family dynamics and juvenile delinquency.	- Marriage and Family - Introduction to Social Work - Interviewing, Counseling, and the Helping Relationship				
City College of San Francisco https://www.ccsf.edu/en/educational-programs/school-and-departments/school-of-health-and-physical-education/health-education-and-community-health-studies0/CommunityHealthWorkerCertificate/Organizing-Advocacy-Counseling-and-Education-Certificate-of-Achievement.html	Youth Worker: Organizing, Advocacy, Counseling and Education Certificate	Certificate is designed to prepare individuals for positions working with youth ages 13–21 years with community health and social service agencies and programs. Youth Workers provide health education client-centered counseling and case management services, and conduct community organizing and advocacy in a wide variety of employment settings. As part of their education, students will complete an internship with a local youth serving agency.	Required coursework includes: - HLTH 201 CHW Skills Principles & Practice 1 - HLTH 202 CHW Skills Principles & Practice 2 - HLTH 65 Youth Development and Leadership - CDEV 67 The Child, the family, and the Community - HLTH 116 Conflict Resolution in the Health Care Workplace Diversity & Social Justice	Not available	23 credits	In-person	Not available
North Shore Community College https://www.northshore.edu/academics/programs/pyk	Youth Worker Certificate	Certificate provides students with foundational skills and knowledge to work with at-risk youth in non-traditional settings.	Required coursework includes: - Introductory Psychology - Working with Youth - Seminar and Practice of Youth Work	Not available	9 credits	Online and in-person	Not available
Metropolitan Community College- Penn Valley http://www.mccck.edu/francis/training/schoolAge.aspx	Youth Development Credential	Credential is developed by the Missouri School Age Community Coalition (MOSAC2) in order to address the need for extended programs to fill the hours youth spend alone.	Required coursework includes: - Conscious Guidance in Classroom Management - Fundamentals of Afterschool I - Fundamentals of Afterschool II: Links to Learning	Missouri School Age Community Coalition	6 credits	Online	Not available
Harrison College http://catalog.harrison.edu/content.php?catoid=11&catoid=11&navoid=1440&filter%5BItem_type%5D=3&filter%5Bonly_active%5D=1&filter%5B3%5D=1&filter%5Bcpage%5D=5	Youth Development and Attainment Certificate	Certificate is an online program that enhances the professional skills and competencies of professionals who work with children, youth, and families.	Six courses based on nationally accepted core competencies followed by an externship or capstone project. Coursework includes topics on child and youth development; health, safety, nutrition and program environments; program and activity design; and human relationships.	Not available	6 courses	Online	Not available

Ivy Tech Community College https://www.ivytech.edu/human-services/	Indiana Youth Development Certificate or Indiana Youth Development Technical Certificate	Certificates are sequences of technical and professional courses that are industry focused and designed for youth work preparation.	Required coursework includes: - Introduction to Human Services - Helping Relationship Techniques - Child and Youth Development - Family and Community in Youth Work - Content and Curriculum in Youth Work - Development of the Youth Professional	Indiana Youth Pro	24 to 31 credit hours	Not available	Not available
Associate/Baccalaureate Certificates							
California State University, Fresno (Fresno State) https://www.fresnostate.edu/chhs/recreation/degrees-certificates/certificates.html	Certificate in Serving At-Risk Youth	Certificate provides an overview of the critical issues that face youth and the service concerns associated with meeting their needs.	Coursework includes: -Serving At-Risk Youth -Community Placements in Leisure Settings -Adolescent Development -Child Abuse -Community and Non-Profit Recreation Services -Intercultural Communication -Drugs, Society, and Health -Managing Nonprofit and Socially Responsible, Sustainable Organizations	Not available	12 units	In person	Not available
Graduate Certificates							
North Carolina State University https://online-distance.ncsu.edu/program/graduate-certificate-in-youth-development-leadership/	Graduate Certificate in Youth Development and Leadership	Certificate prepares professionals to work as leaders in youth-serving organizations.	Required coursework includes: -Family and Youth Professionals as Leaders -Applied Concepts in Child and Youth Development -Elective in Organizational Administration -Elective in Youth or Family Development	Not available	12 credits	On-site	Not available
North Carolina State University – Distance Education https://online-distance.ncsu.edu/program/graduate-certificate-in-youth-development-leadership/	Graduate Certificate in Youth Development and Leadership	Certificate prepares professionals to work as leaders in youth-serving organizations.	Required coursework includes: -Organizational Systems in Youth and Family Settings -Volunteerism in Youth and Family Settings -Contemporary Issues in Community Youth Development	Not available	12 credits	Online	Resident : \$4,889.64 Non-resident: \$10,709.64
University of Nebraska ^a	Graduate Certificate in	Certificate is designed for professionals who work at youth programs, schools, and	Coursework includes: - Foundations of Youth Development	Not available	13 credit hours	Online	Not available

http://www.unl.edu/gradstudies/prospectiv e/programs/Cert_YouthDevelopment	Youth Development	forensic services. Two areas of focus are: (1) Youth Development Specialist and (2) Youth Program Management and Evaluation	-Youth Policy -Contemporary Youth Issues -Adolescents and Their Families -Youth Development -Youth in Cultural Contexts				
Clemson University https://www.clemson.edu/online/programs /youth-development-cert.html	Certificate in Youth Development Leadership	Certificate is designed to equip professionals with competencies that augment their bachelor's degree in a related field.	Required coursework includes: - Foundations of Youth Development - An Applied Perspective - Child and Adolescent Development - Youth Development Programming in a Contemporary Society - Creative and Ethical Leadership in a Changing Society - Assessment and Evaluation of Youth Programs	Not available	12 graduate credit hours	Completely online	Not available
Boston College http://www.bc.edu/schools/lsoe/academics /departments/cdep/adepprofessional-preparation-program.html	Certificate in Positive Youth Development	Certificate is designed to equip professionals with an understanding of the theoretical, empirical and experiential bases of Positive Youth Development (PYD). Appropriate for early- and mid-career professional youth development leaders.	Coursework includes: - Applied Adolescent Development - Positive Youth Development - Educational and Social Issues and Social Policy - Issues in Life Span Development - Multicultural Issues - Family and Community Engagement	Positive Youth Development Model	4 courses	Not available	Not available
University of Wisconsin-Platteville https://www.uwplatt.edu/continuing/afters chool-and-youth-development-credential	Afterschool and Youth Development Credential	Certificate is designed to provide the knowledge and skills individuals need to care for school-age children in group child care settings. Examines and identifies the rules and regulations governing group child care for school age children and the responsibilities of the providers.	Required coursework includes: - Foundations in Afterschool and Youth Development - Engaging Youth in Groups - Intentionality in Programming - Capstone Project	Not available	4 courses	Online	Not available
Michigan State University https://hdfs.msu.edu/graduate/great-plains-idea-online-degrees-and-certificates	Youth Development Specialist - Graduate Certificate	Certificate is designed to assist youth professionals to teach youth skills necessary for a successful transition into adulthood. The program uses a strengths-based curriculum to address the	Coursework includes: - Foundations of Youth Development - Adolescents and Their Families - Community Youth Development - Contemporary Youth Issues	Not available	13 credits	Not available	Not available

		need for advanced education in youth issues.	- Youth Development - Youth in Cultural Contexts - Youth Policy				
University of New Hampshire http://chhs.unh.edu/hdfs/adolescent-development-graduate-certificate	Adolescent Development Graduate Certificate	Certificate is intended for professionals who lack specific knowledge about adolescent development, and is grounded in an ecological approach that focuses on supporting the health and well-being of all adolescents.	Coursework includes: - Contemporary Issues in Adolescent Development - Family Programs and Policies - Race, Class, Gender, and Families - Children, Adolescents, and the Law - Growing Up Male in America - Family Violence Research Seminar - Sociology of the Family - Practice with Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender People - Management and Policy in Therapeutic Recreation	Not available	14-15 credits over 1 year	In-person	Not available
University of Wisconsin -Milwaukee http://ecampus.wisconsin.edu/online-certificate/youth-work-certificate-uw-milwaukee.aspx	Youth Work Certificate	Certificate is designed to be an interdisciplinary program for the study of the principles of youth work.	Required coursework includes: - Overview of Child and Youth Care - Youth Work Practice - Human Development or Family Work	Not available	14-16 credits	online	Not available
University of Missouri http://online.missouri.edu/degreeprograms/human-environmental-sciences/youth-development/grad-cert/	Youth Development Specialist	Certificate is focused on the foundations of youth development, youth culture, community youth development, and prepares professionals to work one-on-one with youth and their families	Required coursework includes: - Foundations of Youth Development - Adolescents and their Families - Federal and State Policies that Impact Youth Development - Community Youth Development	Not available	13 hour online class	Online	Not available
International Certificates (Offered in countries outside the United States)							
Workforce Development: Auckland, Napier, Lower Hutt, New Zealand http://www.workforce.ac.nz/register&register_course_id=2&place_id=43	National certificate in youth work level 4-- Post-high school certificate	Provides basic skills you needed for a successful career as a Youth Worker, including how to how to develop positive relationships with young people across communities.	Youth workers are trained to: - Develop knowledge to build a strong foundation to support safe, ethical, and relevant practice - Encourage relationships with young people in the community - Develop an ability to work with risk and resilience factors affecting youth	Not available	Variable	In-person	Not available

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create links and network with social service providers in the community - Explore the structure of social service agencies 				
<p>University of South Wales</p> <p>http://courses.southwales.ac.uk/courses/1275-postgraduate-diploma-youth-and-community-work-initial-qualifying/</p>	Postgraduate Diploma Youth and Community Work	Diploma is designed to teach professionals about youth work, community development, health, education, social care and youth justice.	<p>Coursework includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Principles, Practice and Professional Foundations of Youth Work Ethics - Reflection and Safeguarding - Social Pedagogy Professional Placement 	Education Training Skills	2-5 years part time or 1 year full time	In-person/online	Not available
<p>University of Huddersfield</p> <p>https://www.hud.ac.uk/courses/2016-17/part-time/postgraduate/youth-and-community-work-professional-studies-ma-pgdip/</p>	Youth and Community Work Professional Studies	Certificate provides opportunity to develop professional practice through the integration of theory and practice.	<p>Coursework includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developing Professional Practice - Work with Individuals and Groups - Developing Professional Practice - Organizational Culture and Project Planning - Inequality Inclusion and Critical Social Policy - Managing and Supervising Work with Young People and Communities 	National Youth Agency	Variable	In-person/online	£720 per credit
<p>Leeds Beckett University</p> <p>https://courses.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/youthworkkjnc_pgdip/</p>	Youth Work & Community Development	Certificate is designed to enhance existing skills as well as develop new ones that might be needed when working in community development or youth work.	<p>Coursework includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ethics, Principles and Practice of Youth Work and Community Development - Historical Perspectives on Youth and Community Work - Empowering Relationships: Critical Issues for Practice Management - Current Issues in Practice - The Professional Practitioner 	National Youth Agency	1 year full time	On campus	£3000
<p>Newman University - Brigham</p> <p>http://www.newman.ac.uk/higher-degree-courses/1576/youth-and-community-work#tab-fee</p>	Youth and Community Work	Certificate is primarily designed for work in local authority and voluntary organization youth work settings, as well as those working with, and managing organizations for young people. Offers knowledge and experience of the policies, best practice, and	<p>Coursework includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Principles and Practice of Youth and Community Work - Organizations and Management - Developing Services for Young People and Communities - Contexts of Working with Young People and Communities 	National Youth Agency	1-2 years	On campus	International Students £6,80

		skills required to develop both personally and professionally.					
George Williams College http://www.ymca.ac.uk/?pageid=102	Youth Work and Community Learning and Development	Certificate is designed to enhance leadership and managerial abilities, contribute to the strategic development of their agencies, and extend the depth and breadth of learning experiences with young people.	Curriculum includes an enhanced current and critical exploration of youth work and community learning and development practice.	National Youth Agency	16 months	On campus	£4,300.00 per course
Cardiff Metropolitan University http://www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/education/courses/Pages/Youth-and-Community-Work---PgD--Managing-Community-Practice---MA-.aspx	Youth & Community Work	Certificate is focused on professionals who have increasingly found themselves working in the field of youth and community work and who wish to gain a professional qualification.	Coursework includes: - Principles and Practice of Youth and Community Work - Management in the Youth and Community Sector - The Community Context of Practice (Fieldwork and Tutorials) - The Social Context of Practice (Fieldwork and Tutorials)	Not applicable	2 years part time	On campus	Not available
RMIT University - Australia http://www.rmit.edu.au/study-with-us/levels-of-study/vocational-study/certificates/c4352#pageId=program-structure	Certificate IV in Youth Work	Offers skills on developing and facilitating programs for young people through a range of community-based programs addressing the social, behavioral, health and welfare, developmental and protection needs of young people.	- Community development - Responding to children and young people at risk - Communication - Working within ethical frameworks - Client services - Effective work environments - Working with culturally diverse clients and co-workers.	Not applicable	1 year	On campus	
Chisholm https://www.chisholm.edu.au/courses/certificate-iv/youth-work	Certificate IV in Youth Work	Certificate addresses the social and behavioral development and health needs of young people in the community.	Curriculum offers practical skills in areas such as advocacy; effective communication; community education; networking; case work; workplace safety; first aid; empowerment; legal and ethical frameworks; cultural diversity; child protection; mental health; and group activities.	Not applicable	6 months	On campus	\$6,059
Box Hill Institute http://www.boxhill.edu.au/courses/certificate-iv-in-youth-work-hcyw4b-d/	Certificate IV in Youth Work	Certificate provides comprehensive knowledge and training in working with young people and can lead to a career in residential work,	Specific course content includes case management, crisis intervention, alcohol and other drugs, mental health and workplace health and safety.	Not applicable	12 months	On campus	Not available

		juvenile justice and the Department of Human Services. Teaches how to support, advocate and empower young people to have a voice through an extensive range of networks.					
The Gordon http://www.thegordon.edu.au/courses/all-courses/chc40413-certificate-iv-in-youth-work	Certificate IV in Youth Work	Strengthens knowledge base of youth work through subjects such as sociology, psychology, counselling skills and the youth sector. Offers practical skills required to work effectively with young people in individual and group settings.	Coursework includes: - Engage Respectfully With Young People - Identify and respond to children and young people at risk - Participate in workplace health and safety - Plan And Conduct Group Activities - Recognize And Respond Appropriately To Domestic And Family Violence - Communication Skills To Build Relationships	Not applicable	1-2 years	On campus	\$7,840
Kangan University https://www.kangan.edu.au/courses/tafe-courses/browse-for-courses	Certificate IV in Youth Work	Certificate is focused on teaching professionals to identify individual issues and implement strategies to assist young people to improve their quality of life.	Coursework includes areas such as: casework, understanding young people, community development, group work, legal and ethical frameworks, youth outreach, mental health and young people, communication skills, and networking.	Not applicable	6 months	On campus	\$4,800
Victoria University https://www.vu.edu.au/courses/certificate-iv-in-youth-work-chc40413#units-and-electives-structure=show	Certificate IV in Youth Work	Offers a range of community-based programs designed to address the social, behavioral, health, welfare, developmental and protection needs of young people.	Coursework includes: - Targeted communication skills to build relationships - Work within a community development framework - Work within a relevant legal and ethical framework - Plan and conduct group activities - Work with people with mental health issues - Identify and respond to children and young people at risk - Engage respectfully with young people	Not applicable	18 Units, 14 core and 4 electives	Online	Not available

^aThis certificate also taught through the Great Plains Interactive Distance Education alliance (GPIDEA) which includes Iowa State University, Kansas State University, Michigan State University, University of Missouri, North Dakota State University, and Texas Tech University.

^bStudents must be admitted to program as degree or non-degree seeking students.