MA in Human Development and Family Science

Programs are structured to provide students with an integration of theoretical perspectives, empirical research training, and practical experiences.

Degree Requirements

Students in the degree program must choose an emphasis area. Degree Requirements are specific to the emphasis and can be found on those catalog pages. The number of hours required for each emphasis is as follows:

- Family and Community Services: 36 hours
- Gerontology: 36 hours
- Youth Development: 36 hours
- Dual MS or MA/JD: approximately 113 hours

Research

Students working toward the master’s degree have 5 years from the semester the first course is taken in which to complete all degree requirements. Extensions for one additional year to complete the degree may be granted with submission of a detailed plan for completion, including a timetable. Students must be making progress toward completion when they apply for the extension. A maximum of two extensions may be granted.

Satisfactory Progress

Satisfactory progress is based on the student maintaining a sufficient GPA according to the student’s program or funding guidelines and completing all degree forms and milestones according to departmental timelines. For a detailed description of the department’s description of a satisfactory rate of academic progress, please refer to the HDFS Graduate Handbook found on the HDFS website (http://hdfs.missouri.edu/).

Time Limits for Masters' Degree Completion

Students working toward the master’s degree have 5 years from the semester the first course is taken in which to complete all degree requirements. Extensions for one additional year to complete the degree may be granted with submission of a detailed plan for completion, including a timetable. Students must be making progress toward completion when they apply for the extension. A maximum of two extensions may be granted.

Background Checks, Health Screenings and Other Required Elements

It is essential that HDFS majors develop professional relationships with vulnerable populations, thus during the course of the degree program and prior to beginning any practical or clinical education experience, students are required to:

- pass multiple criminal background checks
- pass mandatory drug screens
- pass other qualification checks required by the practical or clinical education sites
- provide proof of health insurance coverage
- provide proof of required immunizations
- provide proof of student professional liability insurance coverage

The student is responsible for all costs incurred with these requirements. Failure to provide appropriate documentation, or pass required checks prior to the beginning of practical or clinical experiences may result in dismissal from the degree program in HDFS.

Admission Criteria

Admission for Campus Programs:

Fall deadline: December 15
Spring deadline: November 1

Minimum TOEFL scores:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Internet-based test (iBT)</th>
<th>Paper-based test (PBT)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Effective July 1, 2015 must have score of 80

Effective July 1, 2015 must have score of 550

Minimum GRE scores:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When did you take the GRE?</th>
<th>Verbal</th>
<th>Quantitative</th>
<th>Analytical</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prior to August 1, 2011</td>
<td>50th percentile</td>
<td>50th percentile</td>
<td>50th percentile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On or After August 1, 2011</td>
<td>50th percentile</td>
<td>50th percentile</td>
<td>50th percentile</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Some exceptions are made

- Minimum GPA: 3.0 for last 60 hours
- Required Application Materials for Campus Programs (submitted online via the online application system)
- Application form
- 3 letters of recommendation from people who can speak to applicant’s potential to do graduate work (e.g., professors, advisors).
- GRE score (and TOEFL score for international applicants)
- Personal statement
- Résumé or Curriculum Vitae
- Official Transcripts

**Admission for Online Programs:**

- No Admission Deadlines (We guarantee processing of complete applications received at least two months prior to the beginning of the expected term of admission. This will give admitted students adequate time to enroll in coursework.)
- Minimum GPA: 3.0 for last 60 hours

**Required Application Materials for Online Programs**

Submit online via the online application system (https://applygrad.missouri.edu/apply/)

- Application form
- 3 letters of recommendation from people who can speak to applicant’s potential to do graduate work (e.g., professors, advisors).
- Personal statement
- Résumé or Curriculum Vitae
- Official Transcripts

**Admission Contact Information:**

Ashlie Lester lester@missouri.edu
411 Gentry; Columbia, MO 65211
573-882-1301