M.S. / Ph.D. or Ph.D. in
Human Development and Family Science
Application Process

Admissions Requirements

- An upper-division undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. The same scale applies for graduate-level work.
- A competitive Graduate Record Examination revised General Test (GRE) score; recommended score of above the 50th percentile in both verbal and quantitative sections with a 4.0 or high on the writing section.
- International students must have a TOEFL score of at least 550 (paper-based) or 80 (internet-based).
- Selected applicants are invited to on-campus interviews during February to determine fit.

Attainment of these minimum requirements does not guarantee admission to the program. Admission decisions are based on assessments of all aspects of the student’s application materials. The department reserves the right to increase standards if warranted by enrollment limitations and by the number and quality of applicants. Financial aid is a separate process from the admission to a graduate program.

You may apply directly to the Human Development and Family Science Doctoral Program following a related bachelor’s program and earn your Master’s on your way to the Ph.D. For those students accepted into the in-flight master’s degree program, the master’s degree must be completed within 3 years of enrollment in the doctoral program.

1. Apply online and pay the application fee

- Upload a personal statement outlining your research interests, career goals, and why Florida State University is a good fit for you. We strongly encourage applicants to familiarize themselves with the research interests of the faculty in their area so the statement can specifically address those faculty members. The statement should include how your background and prior training make you a good candidate and should include your top three (3) choices of faculty members with whom you would like to work.
- If you are applying to the Human Development and Family Science Doctoral Program directly following a related bachelor’s program, you must clearly state that you are also interested in the Family and Child Sciences in-flight master’s degree.
- Upload a resume or vita (information should be current).
- Upload contact information for three recommenders. The recommenders should be professionals you have worked with who are familiar with your academic performance and can speak directly about your qualification for this degree. Academic recommendations are preferred, but relevant professional recommendations will be accepted. No personal recommendations or letters from peers will be accepted.
- Upload a writing sample that represents your best scholarly work. Examples include a thesis, research-based paper, published article, or a paper submitted as a course assignment.

(continued on next page)
2. **Submit official test scores and transcripts**
   
   - Send GRE (and, if required, TOEFL) scores and official transcripts to the FSU Office of Admissions.
   - The school reporting code for test scores is 5219; no department code is required. We require transcripts from EVERY post-secondary institution you attended (even if those courses are posted to another institution’s transcript).

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact us at [fcs_gs@fsu.edu](mailto:fcs_gs@fsu.edu)