

# INFANT, EARLY CHILDHOOD AND FAMILY MENTAL HEALTH, CAPSTONE CERTIFICATE

The Infant, Early Childhood, and Family Mental Health Capstone certificate is an interdisciplinary one-year academic program for practicing professionals who work with families in the prenatal and postpartum periods and with children ages birth through five years. Following a cohort model, admitted applicants are provided with three days of class instruction each month as well as small group and individualized opportunities to reflect upon and integrate program content into their professional work experiences. These experiences will contribute to an increased knowledge base and skills in providing appropriate screening, assessment, diagnostic and therapeutic intervention services to support the mental health of infants, young children, and their families.

This program is designed for:

- Licensed mental health and health care professionals\* in clinical psychology, counseling psychology, school psychology, social work, marriage and family therapy, nursing, psychiatry, pediatrics, or family medicine.
- Professionals from the fields of early childhood education, child development, family studies, occupational therapy, physical therapy, social work, or speech and language therapy. This includes those who provide direct services to young children and their families in Home Visiting, Birth to 3, Early Childhood Special Education, Early Head Start, Head Start, Childcare, and Child Protective Services programs who have a minimum of a bachelor's degree.

\* Participation in this capstone certificate program fulfills a prerequisite for mental health professionals who are interested in applying to the Wisconsin Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP) Learning Collaborative. (<https://ifmh.psychiatry.wisc.edu/continuing-education-opportunities/>)

Students will have the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and competencies to pursue endorsement as an infant family specialist, infant mental health specialist, or infant mental health mentor through the Wisconsin Alliance for Infant Mental Health (WI-AIMH) (<http://wiaimh.org/>).

The Capstone certificate program meets three days a month during the academic year. Program modality and schedule. ([http://infantfamilymentalhealth.psychiatry.wisc.edu/?page\\_id=14](http://infantfamilymentalhealth.psychiatry.wisc.edu/?page_id=14))

This UW-Madison Capstone certificate is currently offered using two different modalities (in-person and online) in alternating years; thus, students have the opportunity to select the modality that works best for their circumstances and/or learning preferences. Please note that during years the program is offered online, the first and final sessions are held in-person to facilitate relationship development at the beginning of the program and closure at the end.

## HOW TO GET IN

### HOW TO GET IN ADMISSION

All applicants must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university or its equivalent and a minimum grade point average of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale. Adult Career and Special Student Services (ACSSS) is the admitting office for all University Special students. However, the department offering the capstone certificate program makes the final admission decision upon review of all applicant materials. All application materials must be received by the deadline posted on the program website.

### APPLICATION STEPS

A complete application includes the following information:

1. An online application for admission (<http://continuingstudies.wisc.edu/advising/apply.htm>) as a University Special student, selecting UNCS Capstone Certificate and the program: Infant, Early Childhood and Family Mental Health. This application is received and processed by ACSSS with final decision held for approval from the specific capstone certificate coordinator.
2. The certificate program application posted on the certificate program's application page (<https://ifmh.psychiatry.wisc.edu/application/>) and additional materials to include:
  - a completed application form
  - a current résumé or curriculum vitae
  - two letters of reference:
    - One letter should be from a supervisor who is acquainted with applicant's applied experiences
    - Both letters should speak to professional qualifications of the applicant
  - transcripts for all college/university programs (undergraduate and graduate)
  - for licensed professionals, copies of your current licenses and/or credentials

Send completed application and supporting materials by email or mail to the Program Administrative Assistant (see the "Contact Information" sidebar). Direct questions to the Program Administrative Assistant by email or phone, 608-263-5000.

*Subject:* UW Infant, Early Childhood and Family Mental Health Capstone Certificate Program Application

UW Infant, Early Childhood and Family Mental Health Capstone Certificate Program  
WisPIC/Department of Psychiatry  
6001 Research Park Boulevard  
Madison, WI 53719

### ADMISSION NOTIFICATION

Those who complete the application process and meet the capstone certificate program requirements will be offered an interview with a program director. This will ensure that applicants have the appropriate background, prerequisites and that this capstone certificate program is a good fit for the applicant. This includes discussing applicant's access to

work with young children ages birth through 5 years and their families in order to complete assignments and participate in case-based discussions.

### Enrollment

Admitted students receive a formal letter of admission to UW–Madison from Adult Career and Special Student Services along with general enrollment information. Additional detail is provided on the ACSSS enrollment page (<http://continuingstudies.wisc.edu/advising/enroll-special.htm>).

The Infant, Early Childhood and Family Mental Health Capstone Certificate Program will send an email to admitted students with specific information pertaining to enrollment in the courses and completion of the capstone program.

## REQUIREMENTS

### REQUIREMENTS GRADE REQUIREMENTS

- Must have a minimum GPA of 3.000 to complete this capstone certificate.

### REQUIRED COURSES

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Concepts, Assessment, Interventions, Practice, and Policy</b>		
PSYCHIAT 712	Foundations in Infant, Early Childhood and Family Mental Health: Dev, Screening, Assessment and Diag	3
PSYCHIAT 715	Therapeutic Interventions, Practices and Policy in Infant, Early Childhood and Family Mental Health	3
<b>Seminar on Reflective Practices and Mindfulness</b>		
PSYCHIAT 713	Seminar in Reflective Practices and Mindfulness in Infant, Early Childhood & Family Mental Health I	2
PSYCHIAT 716	Seminar in Reflective Practices and Mindfulness in Infant, Early Childhood and Fam Mental Health II	2
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>10</b>

### Optional Courses for Licensed Mental Health Professionals

Code	Title	Credits
PSYCHIAT 714	Consultation in Infant, Early Childhood and Family Mental Health: Advanced Clinical Practice I	1
PSYCHIAT 717	Consultation in Infant, Early Childhood and Family Mental Health: Advanced Clinical Practice II	1

### Course Sequencing

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
PSYCHIAT 712	3 PSYCHIAT 715	3
PSYCHIAT 713	2 PSYCHIAT 716	2

PSYCHIAT 714  
(Optional 1 credit)

PSYCHIAT 717  
(Optional 1 credit)

5

5

**Total Credits 10**

## MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR CAPSTONE CERTIFICATE COMPLETION

- Students must earn a minimum grade of C in each course used to meet Capstone Certificate requirements.
- Courses in which a student elects the pass/fail or audit option will not count toward completion of Capstone Certificate requirements.
- All of the Capstone Certificate credits must be earned "in residence" (which includes on campus and distance-delivered courses) at UW-Madison.
- All of the Capstone Certificate credits must be earned while enrolled in the Capstone Certificate program.

Individual Capstone Certificate programs may have additional requirements for completion, which will be listed above as/if applicable.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

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1. Apply concepts of parent, infant, and early childhood mental health informed by developmental, neuroscience, and attachment research to support the social and emotional development and well-being of young children in the context of their family or caregiver relationships.
2. With a focus on parent-child early relationships, provide appropriate screening, assessment, diagnostic, and referral services for infants, young children, and families.
3. Provide therapeutic interventions and mental health consultation to families and professionals to reduce the impact of early-life trauma, loss, and disturbances before they become more serious disorders.
4. Use reflective practice and mindfulness strategies to support you and those you support in your work.