All three emphases in the Family and Child Studies major prepare students to work as professionals serving families and children.

All emphases provide a foundation for graduate study.

FAMILY AND INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT
(Emphasis 1)

This emphasis provides career enhancement for students who have prior work experience with individuals and or families or who plan to pursue a career in secondary education or higher education in family and child studies and related fields. It is recommended as a preparation for advanced degrees in related fields with research rather than a service focus.

FAMILY SOCIAL SERVICES
(Emphasis 2)

This emphasis is intended for students who seek entry-level employment in family services, mental health, or community welfare agencies that serve primarily older children, adolescents, adults, couples, and the elderly. It is recommended as preparation for advanced degrees in social work, family and child studies, marriage and family therapy, and related fields.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(Emphasis 3)

This emphasis provides preparation for professionals who serve infants, toddlers, and young children and their parents in parent-child programs, both home and community-based; in programs for parents and expectant parents; in child-life programs; and in early intervention, early childhood education, and leadership/advocacy positions. It is recommended as preparation for advanced degrees in child development, family and child studies, and related fields.

Are you interested in working with couples or families?

Do you want to make a difference in your community?

Do you enjoy working with infants, young children, or adolescents?

Have you thought about working with parents or the elderly?

If you answered YES to any of the above questions, FAMILY AND CHILD STUDIES is the major for you.

You can choose from three emphases:

- Family and Individual Development
- Family Social Services
- Child Development
ADMISSIONS

Application materials for admission to the university can be obtained by contacting us at:

Office of Admissions
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois 60115 – 2857
815-753-0446

Note for Admissions
Admission to this major requires an application process. For details, refer to the section of the NIU Undergraduate Catalog titled “Limited Admissions Requirements.” The program usually takes at least two years to complete after prerequisite courses have been taken and admission as a major has been achieved. The program is transfer friendly - contact the college office.

Additional Information
If you have questions or wish to arrange for a conference, call the college undergraduate advising office (815)-753-1891 or the school’s office (815)-753-1543

Current school information is available at: www.chhs.niu.edu/fcns/