Human Services Programs

Three Concentrations:
- Human Services – General
- Addiction Studies
- Youth Development

Are you a caring, concerned person who wants to improve people’s lives? Consider a career in human services. At Palm Beach State, you can turn your desire to help into a lifelong profession.

Learning designed with you in mind
You’ll gain essential knowledge and skills in courses taught by licensed social work and mental health professionals.

Internship provides real-world experiences, networking opportunities and job prospects.

Convenient class schedules: equate just two days a week on campus. Plus, we have weekend and online options.

Small class sizes offer personal attention.

Financial aid and scholarships are available for qualified students.

Chart a pathway to career success

Start with an associate degree:
In just two years, you can earn an Associate in Science (A.S.) degree in Human Services at Palm Beach State College. Or you can begin with an 18-month College Credit Certificate (CCC).

Next, a bachelor’s degree:
More than 90 percent of our A.S. degree graduates go on to pursue four-year degrees. Two great options are:
- B.A.S. Be a supervisor: Put your associate degree credits toward Palm Beach State’s Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Supervision and Management.
- B.S.W. Work directly with people in need: Florida Atlantic University’s Bachelor of Social Work program will accept your Palm Beach State credits.

Complete your master’s degree:
B.S.W. graduates may continue at FAU and receive their Master of Social Work degree.

As a partner in the creation of the Youth Development track – Florida’s first academic pathway in this emerging field – Prime Time encourages students to consider this rewarding and fun profession devoted to helping children and youth acquire the cognitive, social and emotional skills they need to navigate life.

Katherine Gopie
Director of Professional Development
Prime Time Palm Beach County, Inc.

Our collaboration with Palm Beach State College emphasizes internships, classroom instruction, community service and volunteering to prepare students for fulfilling and rewarding careers in social services.

Dennis Miles
Southeast Regional Managing Director
Florida Department of Children and Families

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Your Pathway to Success

Starting Point
- Associate in Science (A.S.) degree
- College Credit Certificate (CCC)

Next Step
- Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.S.) degree
- Bachelor of Social Work (B.S.W.) degree

Final Step
- Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) degree

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Create your future by helping others

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Addiction Studies
Youth Development
## Human Services Programs

Wherever there are people in need, you’ll find human services professionals. That’s why Palm Beach State lets students choose from three Human Services concentration areas:

- General
- Addiction Studies
- Youth Development

### Degree & Certificate Options

Each concentration offers both an Associate in Science degree and a College Credit Certificate. The CCC programs deliver the technical core of the A.S. degrees and work well for career changers, people who need a faster route to employment or those already in the field who want to advance. CCC credits transfer into the corresponding A.S. degree.

### Human Services – General Concentration

#### Associate in Science Degree

College Credit Certificate

The General concentration offers the broadest perspective of the human services field and equips you for many career and education paths. The balanced curriculum focuses on developing critical skills in counseling, interviewing and group dynamics and explores the methods of working with various populations - from children to seniors. In addition to further education, graduates may pursue an entry-level position as a human services specialist, counselor, job coach, outreach worker, case manager or behavior modification specialist in a wide range of areas:

- family counseling
- child/adolescent services
- elder care
- drug and alcohol abuse
- supporting individuals with social, economic, mental or emotional challenges

### Addiction Studies Concentration

#### Associate in Science Degree

College Credit Certificate

Both the A.S. degree and CCC meet the education requirement for Florida state addiction professional certification. The abuse of alcohol, drugs and prescription medications is on the rise, causing a shortage of trained addiction professionals. The Addiction Studies concentration is designed to prepare students with no prior background, as well as provide supplemental training for people currently or previously employed in the field. Courses examine professional roles and functions along with the interventions and treatments used to help people overcome addictions. After graduation, you may pursue further education or immediate employment in treatment and rehabilitation centers, hospitals and other facilities working in diverse capacities:

- addiction or clinical specialist
- social/human services practitioner
- chemical dependency practitioner
- substance abuse counselor

### Youth Development Concentration

#### Associate in Science Degree

College Credit Certificate

Youth development professionals work with children and adolescents in a variety of settings outside the traditional classroom. This concentration prepares students by teaching the knowledge and skills necessary to make a difference in young people’s lives. You’ll build skills in group facilitation and behavior management as you gain experience in designing and implementing developmentally appropriate youth programs. Graduates may continue their education or start careers as youth program assistants, family support workers, group facilitators and related positions in community-based environments:

- afterschool and recreation programs
- youth counseling organizations
- child, family and social service agencies
- residential care centers, group homes and other youth work settings

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**On-the-Job Training**

Internships are an integral part of our programs. You’ll complete fieldwork experiences in agencies or organizations of your choice, under the supervision of qualified professionals. Students have been offered jobs while training in their selected field. See a list of fieldwork sites on our website.

**Sites/Centers**

- mental health
- family planning
- crisis
- rehabilitation
- detoxification
- therapy
- hospice

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**CEUs for Addiction Professionals**

Do you need continuing education units to maintain your status as a Certified Addiction Professional? Palm Beach State offers individual courses for those not seeking college credits.

Click on “Addiction Professionals.”

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**I learned so much. The professors were unbelievable – every single one! Then once you enter the internship, everything comes together as you start putting it into practice. Anyone interested in the addiction field definitely needs this program.”**

Estanislao R. Ruiz

A.S. Degree Graduate, Addiction Studies Concentration

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“Life-changing”

Frank Verney

A.S. Degree Student

Youth Development Concentration