comments from our graduates

"I loved the speakers! The parents were really effective. Also loved the mentor family idea"

"The exposure to so many aspects of working with people with disabilities is priceless. And in addition to the expansive topics covered, it was also beneficial to have fellow students bring different perspectives and experiences from a range of fields of study."

"I really loved the program. It really touched me personally. I am so happy to have had the opportunity to take this program"

"Great program! This has really broadened my vision and knowledge to aid me not only in my future career but in my personal life as well."

"All of my classes have been very valuable. I especially enjoyed the presentations by the ‘real-life’ speakers who work in the field."

"This Certificate is GREAT! I would promote it to everyone who plans on working with people with developmental disabilities."

for more information

For additional information or to apply, visit our website at www.hdi.uky.edu/ddcertificate or contact Christina Espinosa at (859) 257-7225 or email ctespinosa@uky.edu.
how to apply

Application is simple. Any student who has earned a bachelor’s degree is eligible to apply for admission to the Certificate program. If you are not currently enrolled at the University of Kentucky, you must apply to the UK Graduate School in addition to the Certificate program. For more information or to apply to UK Graduate School, visit www.research.uky.edu/gs.

required courses

- HDI600 – Interdisciplinary Approaches to the needs of persons with developmental disabilities and special health care needs
- HDI602 – Interdisciplinary Supports
- HDI603 – Practicum
- HDI604 – Interdisciplinary Leadership Seminar
- Elective – HDI601, HDI605, or outside course

affiliate faculty

Our affiliate faculty and guest lecturers represent the following academic departments and state agencies:

- Human Development Institute, UK
- Department of Pediatrics, UK
- Department of Educational, School and Counseling Psychology, UK
- Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling, UK
- Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, UK
- College of Public Health, UK
- Department of Psychology, EKU
- Kentucky Assistive Technology Network
- Kentucky Person-Centered Planning Network
- Kentucky Supported Employment Training Project
- Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Kentucky Council on Developmental Disabilities
- Kentucky Division of Protection and Advocacy
- Kentucky Office of the ADA Coordinator

about the Graduate Certificate

The Graduate Certificate in Developmental Disabilities is a great way to receive formal academic credit in the field of developmental disabilities. Human services are interdisciplinary in nature; therefore, professionals working in the field of developmental disabilities can benefit greatly from an interdisciplinary lifespan approach to services, supports, and leadership.

who is eligible to participate?

Courses are designed for professionals working in the field, self-advocates, family, friends, or anyone with a bachelor’s degree interested in learning more about developmental disabilities.

If you are working in the human services field or have plans to, this Certificate is for you. Our students come from a wide variety of academic disciplines, including education, law, rehabilitation sciences, psychology, social work, public health, gerontology and health promotion.

Students will acquire foundational knowledge in specific topical areas, including advocacy, specialized healthcare services and financing, inclusive education, legislation, community living, behavioral supports, organizational development and theory, group facilitation, employment options, aging with a disability, assistive technology, and research proposal development.