

Certificate Program in Developmental Disabilities

The Certificate Program in Developmental Disabilities has been created as a joint effort between the Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities, UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and the Rutgers School of Social Work, Institute for Families. It is intended to enhance the skills and knowledge of professionals working in the field of developmental disabilities and professionals working with people with disabilities in a variety of settings. Workshops may also benefit individuals who have an interest in developmental disabilities.

Certificates of completion will be offered after each workshop and a final certificate will be awarded when all requirements have been met. All workshops offered in this certificate program are designed as non-clinical workshops. Participants not seeking the certificate program are welcome to take individual workshops.

To receive the final certificate, a participant must attend:

- **11 Required Workshops**
- **1 Elective workshop**
- **A total of 12 days**

REQUIRED WORKSHOPS (11 Days total)

- 1. An Introduction to Developmental Disabilities and Social Work Practice** **5 C.E.H.**
- Identify the disabilities covered under federal and state definitions
 - Explore eligibility for services and the service systems utilized

LIFESPAN ISSUES:

- 2. Starting Out: From Diagnosis through Early Childhood** **5 C.E.H.**
- Discuss issues in diagnosis and identification
 - Locate and access developmental and educational services
- 3. Supporting Youth with Disabilities in the Transition to Adult Life** **5 C.E.H.**
- Identify the challenges faced by youth
 - Discuss a variety of strategies to facilitate the transition process
- 4. Community Services and Supports: Evolving Approaches** **5 C.E.H.**
- Describe the evolution of consumer-directed services
 - Identify various techniques used in assisting people with life planning

- 5. Growing Old Together: Aging and Family Caregiving** **5 C.E.H.**
- Discuss the issues of aging with a developmental disability
 - Explore strategies for supporting family caregivers

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES:

- 6. Disability Policy Issues** **5 C.E.H.**
- Describe the importance of major federal and state disability legislation
 - Discuss future trends and directions in disability policy

- 7. Legal and Ethical Issues** **5 C.E.H.**
- Identify major ethical issues
 - Develop strategies for resolving legal and ethical dilemmas

- 8. Multicultural Perspectives in Developmental Disabilities** **5 C.E.H.**
- Explore values and belief systems of ethnic groups
 - Implement techniques to overcome barriers

- 9. Supporting Families Through Change** **5 C.E.H.**
- Identify crisis points for the family from diagnosis to adulthood
 - Explore effective support strategies for families

- 10. Health and Wellness** **5 C.E.H.**
- Explore various techniques that contribute to healthy living
 - Identify potential common secondary conditions

- 11. Understanding and Managing Problem Behaviors** **5 C.E.H.**
- Explore the reasons for problem behaviors
 - Identify various approaches for managing problem behaviors

ELECTIVE WORKSHOPS (one required)

One elective is required in addition to the required workshops.

Some Examples:

- Mental and Behavioral Health Aspects of Dual Diagnosis (MI/DD)
- Sexuality and Developmental Disabilities
- Autism and other Disability-Specific Topics
- Guardianship and Developmental Disabilities

For more information please contact us:

- **Web:** <http://socialwork.rutgers.edu/ce/>
- **Email** sswcep@ssw.rutgers.edu
- **Phone** (732) 445-3178