



Postbaccalaureate Certificate in Family Literacy

PENNSTATE



World Campus



Postbaccalaureate Certificate in Family Literacy

The online Postbaccalaureate Certificate in Family Literacy can help you enhance your knowledge, skills, and credentials in family intergenerational literacy or a related field. With its focus on effective implementation of research-based practice, you can learn how to support children's emerging language and literacy development, while also addressing parents' or caregivers' educational needs and goals. If you work—or plan to work—in a field related to family literacy, this program can expand your knowledge of family learning and literacy, parent engagement, and parent involvement in education.

The certificate, developed by the Goodling Institute for Research in Family Literacy in Penn State's College of Education in partnership with the National Center for Families Learning, has been offered since 2003. In this program, noted experts in family literacy, along with specialists in early childhood education and adult literacy education, will present a multidisciplinary, integrated approach to language and literacy instruction. Of those who helped to develop the certificate, or who presently teach the courses, five were invited authors in the *Handbook of Family Literacy* (Barbara Wasik, Ed., 2012).

This certificate comprises four postbaccalaureate courses. If you are pursuing a master's degree in adult education or children's literature at Penn State, you also may take any of the certificate courses as electives. Taught by instructors at the forefront of research, practice, and professional development in family literacy and parent involvement in education, these courses offer you an unparalleled opportunity to apply theory to practice.



Curriculum

This 12-credit online program consists of four 3-credit courses that may be taken individually or in any combination. To earn the professional certificate, you must successfully complete all four courses:

- **ADTED 456: Introduction to Family Literacy**
Introduces family literacy concepts, models, and components supporting families; adult, child, and parent education, interactive literacy activities, and case management.
- **ADTED 457: Adult Literacy**
Surveys adult basic and literacy education research, theory, programming, and instruction; highlights learners' roles as parents, workers, and community members.
- **ADTED 458: Early Literacy Development**
Focuses on young children's language and literacy development, ways that parents and staff support this development, and the research behind children's language and literacy learning.
- **ADTED 459: Interactive Literacy and Parental Involvement: Supporting Academic Success**
Explores parental involvement in education and parent-child literacy activities that support children's language and literacy development, especially among diverse families.

Who Should Apply?

The Certificate in Family Literacy can be of value to:

- family literacy teachers, staff, and administrators
- early childhood teachers, staff, and administrators
- elementary and middle school teachers, staff, and administrators
- adult educators
- parent/family-school liaisons
- family service professionals
- reading specialists
- librarians
- medical and social service professionals
- parents

Online Learning

To balance multiple commitments related to family, career, and studies, the courses in the Postbaccalaureate Certificate in Family Literacy are offered online through Penn State's World Campus. Your learning experiences will be supported with frequent faculty interaction, group projects designed to foster peer interaction, access to instructional resources, and valuable academic advising and support services.

The courses are offered with fixed start and end dates comparable to a traditional semester schedule. Each course is asynchronous so that you can complete the course work at any time that best meets your schedule; however, there are weekly assignments. Although the courses in the certificate support each other, they do not have to be taken in a particular sequence.

You will receive a formal certificate identical to one received by a resident Penn State student upon your successful completion of the requirements for the Postbaccalaureate Certificate in Family Literacy.

Begin Your Application Today

To pursue the Postbaccalaureate Certificate in Family Literacy, you will first need to complete the online Graduate School Application Form. The form can be found by clicking on the “HOW TO APPLY” link from the program overview page:

worldcampus.psu.edu/familylit

The following materials also are required as part of the application process:

- two official transcripts from each higher education institution attended
- proof of English language proficiency for international students whose native language is not English



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Contact Us

To learn more about the Postbaccalaureate Certificate in Family Literacy, offered by Penn State's College of Education, please contact:

World Campus Admissions Counselors

Phone: 800-252-3592 (toll free within the United States)

814-865-5403 (local and international)

Email: wdadmissions@outreach.psu.edu

For more information, visit:

worldcampus.psu.edu/familylit

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