



About the Program

The Master of Science (MS) Degree in Child & Adolescent Behavioral Health (MSCABH) prepares professionals to serve in public and non-profit agencies and schools that work with diverse children and adolescents experiencing behavioral health challenges and their families. Surveys and interviews with potential employers have shown there is high demand for master's degree level graduates to fill positions such as directors, supervisors, and case managers in mental health, substance abuse, juvenile justice, developmental disabilities, and child welfare agencies, as well as consultants in schools and early education and care programs. Educational opportunities include advancement to doctoral programs in public health and the behavioral and social sciences.

The MSCABH is a unique and distinctive curriculum that:

- Focuses on children and adolescents with behavioral health challenges who interact with multiple service sectors and cross geographic and political boundaries.
- Supports the development of a highly skilled, culturally competent workforce and professionals with high levels of education and training who are especially needed for administration of behavioral healthcare and related community services.
- Provides interdisciplinary training and transformational learning opportunities that are intellectually and scientifically sound through a multidisciplinary faculty that is involved in cutting-edge research related to best practices and behavioral health policies.

This interdisciplinary program includes core courses and electives addressing emerging national priorities, including:

- Increasing diversity and leadership capacity in the behavioral health workforce.
- Cross-training in prevention.
- Increasing knowledge about developmental disabilities in combination with behavioral health.
- Closing the research-to-practice gap through translational research education.

Graduation Requirements (39 credit hours):

- 39 credits overall, including 33 hours of coursework: Four core courses (12 credit hours) and 7 required and elective courses (21 credit hours) in one of the four concentrations.
- Pass a comprehensive exam after completing all required courses.
- Complete 6 credit hours for the thesis or applied track.
- Successfully defend thesis or present an applied project.

MS Degree Concentrations

- Developmental Disabilities
- Leadership in Child/Adolescent Behavioral Health
- Research and Evaluation
- Youth and Behavioral Health

All classes in the MSCABH program are offered online with some elective courses also offered in-class.

For More Information

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Admissions

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The MSCABH Program is located in the Department of Child and Family Studies in the College of Behavioral and Community Sciences at the University of South Florida (USF).

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2016-08-30

Program Core Courses (12 credit hours)

- MHS 6069 Child & Adolescent Behavioral Health
- MHS 6027 Creating Cultural Competence in Behavioral Health Organizations
Previously PHC 6240/MHS 6900 Cultural Competence in Children's Mental Health
- MHS 6706 Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health Policy
- PHC 6708 Evaluation and Research Methods in Community Health

Required Thesis or Applied Field Experience (6 credit hours)

- MHS 6972 Thesis in Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health
- or –
- MHS 6941 Applied Field Experience

Concentration Courses (21 credit hours)

Developmental Disabilities Concentration

Required Courses (12 credit hours)

- MHS 6410 Intensive Individualized Positive Behavior Support
- MHS 6065 Issues and Trends in Developmental Disabilities
- MHS 6066 Systems, Services and Supports for Children and Adolescents with Developmental Disabilities
- MHS 6067 Evidence-based Practices for Children & Adolescents with Developmental Disabilities

Elective Course (9 credit hours)

- MHS 6095 Family-Centered Interdisciplinary Practice: SOC
- MHS 6942 Practicum in Evidence-Based Practices and Service Delivery for Children & Adolescents with Developmental Disabilities
- MHS 6945 Leadership Practicum in Agencies Serving Children and Adolescents with Developmental Disabilities
- MHS 6605 Addressing Challenging Behavior in Children
- MHS 6217 Single Case Experimental Design
- MHS 7748 Statistical Applications
- MHS 6508 Wraparound
- MHS 7740 Survey Course in Mental Health Planning
- PHC 6193 Qualitative Methods in Community Health Research

Leadership in Child/Adolescent Behavioral Health Concentration

Required Courses (12 credit hours)

- MHS 6626 Applied Leadership in Children's Behavioral Health
- MHS 6097 Financing of Children's Mental Health Services
- MHS 6096 Program Development and Implementation in Children's Mental Health
- MHS 7740 Survey Course in Planning, Evaluation, and Accountability

Elective Courses (9 credit hours)

- MHS 6098 Leadership within Systems of Care
- MHS 6095 Family-Centered Interdisciplinary Practice: Systems of Care
- MHS 6645 Mental Health Informatics
- MHS 6508 Wraparound Interventions and Systems of Care
- PHC 6542 Epidemiology of Mental Disorders
- MHS 6073 Child and Adolescent Psychopathology & Resilience
- PHC 6544 Children's Mental Health Services
- PHC 6543 Foundations in Behavioral Health Systems
- PHC 6729/MHS 6900 Advanced Research Education in Adolescent Behavioral Health

Research and Evaluation Concentration

Required Courses (12 credit hours)

- PHC 6728 Translational Research Methods in Adolescent Behavioral Health
- PHC 6729 Advanced Research Education in Adolescent Behavioral Health
- MHS 7748 Statistical Applications in Translational Research and Evaluation
- PHC 6539 Foundations in Adolescent Behavioral Health

Elective Courses (9 credit hours)

- MHS 7749 Applications in Dissemination and Implementation Science
- MHS 6096 Program Development and Implementation in Children's Mental Health
- PHC 6193 Qualitative Methods in Community Health Research
- MHS 6645 Mental Health Informatics
- PHC 6543 Foundations in Behavioral Health Systems
- MHS 7740 Survey Course in Mental Health Planning, Evaluation, and Accountability
- EDF 7408 Statistical Analysis for Educational Research II
- MHS 7747 Measurement Issues in Behavioral Health Services Research and Evaluation
- PHC 6051 Biostatistics II

Youth & Behavioral Health Concentration

Required Courses (12 credit hours)

- MHS 6095 Family-Centered Interdisciplinary Practice: Systems of Care
- RCS 5450 Fundamentals of Substance Abuse Counseling
- PHC 6542 Epidemiology of Mental Disorders
- MHS 6096 Program Development & Implementation in Children's Mental Health

Elective Courses (9 credit hours)

- MHS 6098 Leadership within Systems of Care
- MHS 6068 Community-Based Behavioral Health Interventions for Culturally Diverse Youth
- MHS 6508 Wraparound Interventions and Systems of Care
- PHC 6544 Children's Mental Health Services
- MHS 6437 Family Perspectives on Behavioral Health Disparities
- MHS 6073 Child and Adolescent Psychopathology & Resilience
- MHS 6097 Financing of Children's Mental Health Services
- MHS 7740 Survey Course in Planning, Evaluation, & Accountability
- PHC 6035 Co-Morbidity of Mental & Physical Disorders
- RCS 5450 Fundamentals of Substance Abuse Treatment
- PHC 6729 Advanced Research Education in Adolescent Behavioral Health