



CAREER PATH

# Human Services

CAREER CLUSTER  
Human Services

CAREER PATHWAY  
Counseling and Mental Health Services



## MARRIAGE, CHILD AND FAMILY COUNSELOR

Diagnose and treat mental and emotional disorders, whether cognitive, affective, or behavioral, within the context of marriage and family systems. Apply psychotherapeutic and family systems theories and techniques in the delivery of professional services to individuals, couples, and families for the purpose of treating such diagnosed nervous and mental disorders.

### Knowledge and Skills Needed

In addition to courses required for high school graduation, essential skills and knowledge needed for a career as a marriage, child or family counselor are reinforced by taking rigorous and relevant courses, as well as participating in work-based experiences and student organization activities.

(See the Sample Personal Plan of Study for suggested coursework, activities, and knowledge and skills to pursue in preparation of an occupation in this Career Cluster.)

### Education Requirements

Occupation	Percent of Missouri employees aged 25 to 44 in the occupation whose highest level of educational attainment is:		
	High School or Less	Some College	Bachelor Degree or More
Marriage and family therapists	8.9%	18.3%	72.8%
Counselors, social workers, and other community/social specialists	10.3%	19.8%	69.9%
Community and social services	10.5%	20.5%	69.0%

Most Common Educational Level: Master's degree

Note: Be sure to learn whether your occupation has a specific requirement for education or licensing. Apprenticeships are available for more than 240 occupations. Visit [www.oa.doleta.gov/bat.cfm](http://www.oa.doleta.gov/bat.cfm)

### National and State Wage Information

Location	Pay Period	2006		
		Entry*	Median	Experienced**
United States	Hourly	\$15.84	\$20.78	\$26.03
	Yearly	\$32,900	\$43,200	\$54,100
Missouri	Hourly	—	—	—
	Yearly	—	—	—

Based on (\*) lower 25% and (\*\*) upper 25% percentile of wages

### National and State Employment Trends

Marriage, Child and Family Counselor	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings*
	2006	2016		
United States	24,700	32,100	+ 30 %	1,220
Missouri	220	290	+ 28 %	10

\*The estimate for Job Openings includes both turnover that results from people who leave the occupation (e.g. quit, retire, death) and new jobs that are created.

### Educational Opportunities

Note: This list may not be all inclusive. For more information about Missouri schools and programs, visit [www.dhe.mo.gov](http://www.dhe.mo.gov)

#### Avila University

Kansas City, MO  
(816) 942-8400  
[www.avila.edu](http://www.avila.edu)

#### College of the Ozarks

Point Lookout, MO  
(417) 334-6411  
[www.cofo.edu](http://www.cofo.edu)

#### Columbia College

Columbia, MO  
(573) 875-8700  
[www.ccis.edu](http://www.ccis.edu)

#### Evangel University

Springfield, MO  
(417) 865-2811  
[www.evangel.edu](http://www.evangel.edu)

#### Hannibal-Lagrange College

Hannibal, MO  
(573) 221-3675  
[www.hlq.edu](http://www.hlq.edu)

#### Lindenwood University

Saint Charles, MO  
(636) 949-2000  
[www.lindenwood.edu](http://www.lindenwood.edu)

#### Missouri State University

Springfield, MO  
(417) 836-5000  
[www.missouristate.edu](http://www.missouristate.edu)

#### Missouri Western State University

Saint Joseph, MO  
(816) 271-4200  
[www.missouriwestern.edu](http://www.missouriwestern.edu)

(more-over)

**Park University**  
Parkville, MO  
(816) 741-2000  
[www.park.edu](http://www.park.edu)

**Saint Louis University**  
Saint Louis, MO  
(314) 977-2222  
[www.imagine.slu.edu](http://www.imagine.slu.edu)

**Southeast Missouri State University**  
Cape Girardeau, MO  
(573) 651-2000  
[www.semo.edu](http://www.semo.edu)

**University of Central Missouri**  
Warrensburg, MO  
(660) 543-4111  
[www.ucmo.edu](http://www.ucmo.edu)

**University of Missouri - Columbia**  
Columbia, MO  
(573) 882-2121  
[www.missouri.edu](http://www.missouri.edu)

**University of Missouri  
- Kansas City**  
Kansas City, MO  
(816) 235-1000  
[www.umkc.edu](http://www.umkc.edu)

**University of Missouri  
- St. Louis**  
St. Louis, MO  
(314) 516-5000  
[www.umsl.edu](http://www.umsl.edu)

**Washington University**  
St. Louis, MO  
(314) 935-5000  
[www.wustl.edu](http://www.wustl.edu)

**William Woods University**  
Fulton, MO  
(573) 642-2251  
[www.williamwoods.edu](http://www.williamwoods.edu)



**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF  
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY  
EDUCATION**



[www.dese.mo.gov](http://www.dese.mo.gov)

---

**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT  
OF HIGHER EDUCATION**



*Building Missouri's future...  
by degrees*

[www.dhe.mo.gov](http://www.dhe.mo.gov)

---

**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT  
OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**



[www.missouricareersource.com](http://www.missouricareersource.com)



[www.missourieconomy.org](http://www.missourieconomy.org)