

Family and Consumer Sciences

I. Knowing the Content

The professional education program provides evidence that Family and Consumer Sciences certification candidates complete a program of studies the same as the academic content area courses in a bachelor's degree. Family and Consumer Sciences is a field of study comprised of integrated subject matter, related academic proficiencies, and process skills centered on the family system as an organizer. The program shall require the candidates to demonstrate their knowledge of and competence in teaching the fundamental concepts of family and consumer sciences necessary for a teacher at the K-12 level including:

I.A. Family and consumer sciences including:

- history and philosophy of FCS, and the role of professional organizations,
- use of technical, interpretive, and reflective systems of action to address the basic principles of FCS,
- knowledge and/or use of extra-curricular experiences such as advisory committees, community organizations and agencies, and business and industry partnerships,
- integration of Family, Community, and Career Leaders of America (FCCLA) as an integral part of the (FCS) curriculum,
- technological skills necessary to manage a home or work in an FCS-related occupation

I.B. Career, community, and family connections including:

- individual, family, career, and community roles and responsibilities,
- influence of public policy on family well-being,
- citizenship and civic responsibilities,
- FCS-related careers,
- employability skills in community and workplace settings

I.C. Consumer and family resource management including:

- management of individual and family resources across the lifespan,
- financial planning and management,
- relationship of the environment to family and consumer resources,
- consumer rights and responsibilities,
- impact of technology on individual and family resources,
- interrelationship of families and consumers and the economic system

I.D. Parenting and child development including:

- parenting practices,
- principles of and strategies to foster human growth and development,
- external support systems,
- development and administration of an early childhood educational program,
- practices and resources related to children's needs and interests,
- safe and healthy learning environments,
- professional practices and standards related to working with children

I.E. Food, nutrition, and wellness including:

- nutritional needs of individuals and families across the lifespan,
- food plans and preparation techniques that meet the nutritional, cultural, and socioeconomic needs of individuals and families,
- food science, including chemical interactions and energy,
- food safety, testing, and sanitation,
- impact of malnutrition and/or nutrition-related diseases on the individual and family

I.F. Family and interpersonal relationships including:

- impact of the family system on individuals and society,
- appreciation for diversity among individuals and families,
- roles and responsibilities,
- communication skills that contribute to positive relationships,
- conflict prevention and resolution,
- teamwork and leadership skills in the family, workplace, and community,
- family structures

II. Performances

The professional education program provides evidence of the candidates participation in sequential and developmental field experiences and student teaching, under the supervision of college personnel and cooperating teachers who are well trained, have interpersonal skills and demonstrated competence in teaching. The program also provides evidence that the criteria and competencies for exit from the Family and Consumer Science certification program are assessed in coursework, field experiences and student teaching and require the candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and competence in fostering student learning through:

II.A. Managing the instructional environment in order to:

- create a climate that promotes fairness,
- establish and maintain rapport with students,
- communicate challenging learning expectations to each student,
- establish and maintain consistent standards of classroom behavior,
- make the physical environment safe and conducive to learning

II.B. Planning of instruction based upon:

- subject matter and models of Family and Consumer Science curricula,
- students and the community,
- Pennsylvania Academic Standards

II.C. Implementing, adapting and assimilating effective instructional strategies, curriculum resources and technologies in collaboration with other educators

II.D. Selecting, analyzing and modifying instructional materials to meet the learning needs and reading levels of diverse learners

II.E. Monitoring students' understanding of content through a variety of means, providing feedback to students to assist learning, and adjusting instructional strategies

III. Professionalism

The professional education program provides evidence that Family and Consumer Science certification candidates demonstrate knowledge and competencies that foster professionalism in school and community settings including:

III.A. Professional organizations, publications, resources, professional development, and student organizations

III.B. Integrity and ethical behavior, professional conduct as stated in Pennsylvania's Code of Professional Practice and Conduct for Educators; and local, state, and federal laws and regulations

III.C. Cultivating professional relationships with school colleagues to improve student learning

III.D. Communicating effectively with parents/guardians, other agencies and the community at large to support learning by all students