

**ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE (AAS)**

This degree provides the academic knowledge and skill competencies needed by paraprofessionals in mental health services, developmental services and closely-related human services. The degree offers the option for a student to prepare as a Direct Support Professional and/or front-line supervisor of Direct Support Professionals. The special program courses in the degree are infused with the Community Support Skill Standards (a set of nationally validated competencies for community human service practitioners) and an established set of ethical guidelines for Direct Support Professionals. The courses are competency based and provide the opportunity for development of on the job skills.

Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) provide guidance and support to people who need help to be self-sufficient. DSPs provide this support to a wide range of individuals including people with physical, psychiatric, or cognitive disabilities or chronic illness; children and youth who are at risk; and families who need assistance in supporting family members. DSPs are found in many human service settings with various job titles, such as Residential Counselor, Employment Specialist, Job Coach, Service Coordinator, Mental Health Technician, Developmental Support Technician and Personal Support Assistant. These jobs share similar requirements and approaches including the ability to teach life skills, provide physical assistance, and to support the empowerment, choices and self-direction of the individual receiving supports. It is estimated that there are over 2 million Americans working in these roles. Job growth in this profession is estimated to be above average in the future.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES – Graduates of this program will have the opportunity to:**

- Qualify or obtain employment in direct support services delivery or supervision for persons with physical and/or mental disabilities.
- Successfully demonstrate the knowledge and skills required of a direct support professional or supervisor in accordance with current professional standards.
- Successfully apply the knowledge, skills, and ethical standards of a direct support professional or supervisor in an applied human services setting.

**GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS (25 Credits):**

	CR	SEMESTER
<b>COMMUNICATIONS:</b> BUS 108, COM 101, 102, 215, JOUR 102, THTR 105	3-5	_____
<b>ENGLISH:</b> ENG 100, 101, 107, 113	3	_____
<b>HUMAN RELATIONS:</b> ALS 101, ANTH 101, 112, 201, 205, HIST 105, 106, 107, 150, 151, 210, 247, 260, HMS 130, 135B, 265B, MGT 100B, 283, PHIL 135, PSC 201, PSY 101, 102, 207, 208, 261, SOC	3	_____
<b>MATHEMATICS:</b> MATH 104B, 120 or above (except MATH 122, 123)	3	_____
<b>SCIENCE:</b> AST, BIOL, CHEM, EGG 131, 132, ENV, GEOG 103, 104, 117, GEOL, HHP 123B, 124B, PHYS	6	_____
<b>FINE ARTS/HUMANITIES/ SOCIAL SCIENCES:</b> AM, ANTH, ART, COM, ECON, ENG 223 or above, GEOG 106 or above, HIST, International Languages, Music, PHIL, PSC, PSY, SOC, THTR, WMST 113	3	_____
<b>U.S. AND NEVADA CONSTITUTIONS:</b> PSC 101 or HIST 101 and HIST 102 or HIST 101 and HIST 217	4-6	_____

**SPECIAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (35 Credits):**

	CR	SEMESTER
<b>MHDD 101</b> Role of the Technician	1	_____
<b>MHDD 105</b> Conflict Prevention and Response Training	2	_____
<b>MHDD 107</b> Medication Fundamentals	2	_____
<b>MHDD 109</b> Introduction to Therapeutic Interventions	2	_____

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	CR	SEMESTER
<b>MHDD 126</b> Understanding Developmental Disabilities	2	_____
<b>MHDD 127</b> Positive Behavior Supports	2	_____
<b>MHDD 150</b> Issues in Substance Abuse	1	_____
<b>MHDD 153</b> Life Span Development	1	_____
<b>MHDD 154</b> Advanced Therapeutic Interventions	2	_____
<b>MHDD 160</b> Understanding Mental Illness	2	_____
<b>MHDD 299</b> Capstone Project	3	_____
<b>PSY 101</b> General Psychology	3	_____
<b>PSY 241</b> Introduction to Abnormal Psychology	3	_____

**Plus 9 credits from the following concentration of choice:**

**FOR MENTAL HEALTH/DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES:**

<b>CPD 117</b> Introduction to Counseling	3	_____
<b>HMS 130</b> Human Sexuality	3	_____
<b>MHDD 102</b> Medical Component	1	_____
<b>MHDD 103</b> Psychopathology and Developmental Disabilities	1	_____
<b>MHDD 106</b> Teaching and Active Treatment	1	_____
<b>MHDD 110</b> Introduction to Disability Services	3	_____
<b>MHDD 130</b> Teaching Life Skills	3	_____
<b>MHDD 152</b> Allied Therapies	1	_____
<b>MHDD 210</b> Autism Spectrum Disorders	3	_____
<b>MHDD 291B</b> Fieldwork Experience	3	_____
<b>MHDD 295</b> Practicum	3	_____

**FOR SUPERVISORY SERVICES:**

<b>MGT 201</b> Principles of Management	3	_____
<b>MGT 212</b> Leadership and Human Relations	3	_____
<b>MGT 283</b> Personnel Administration	3	_____
<b>MGT 286B</b> Personnel Interviewing	3	_____

**60**  
Total Credits

**ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE**

Students may elect to graduate using the degree requirements in effect at the time of matriculation, or when they declared or changed major or the current catalog. If a program is official after a student has matriculated, the student may choose the degree requirements of the new program. In no case may a student use a catalog which is more than six years old at the time of graduation.