

Contact: Rachel Boon

**REQUEST FOR PROGRAM NAME CHANGE AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY: FROM CHILD, ADULT AND FAMILY SERVICES TO HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES**

**Action Requested:** Consider approval of the request by the Iowa State University to change the program name from Child, Adult and Family Services to Human Development and Family Studies in the College of Human Sciences.

The Council of Provosts and Board office support approval of this request.

**Background:** Human Development and Family Studies is the current name of the home department for the Child, Adult and Family Services (ChFS) major. Department structure is the result of a decades-old merger of smaller departments where former department names came forward through major names. At the start, the unit simply housed a collection of related majors. With the development of the field and evolution of the ChFS major, the two grew together. ChFS is the largest major in the department, and all students in the program engage with individuals and families through a required capstone internship experience.

**Reason for proposed change:** On March 6, 2020, the faculty of the Department of Human Development and Family Studies voted to change the Child, Adult, and Family Services (ChFS) name to Human Development and Family Studies by a vote of 30 to 3, with one abstention. In a survey administered just before the faculty vote, current students identified Human Development and Family Studies as the best name for the Child, Adult, and Family Services major.

Peer institutions with related departments have majors with names including some combination of the critical terms of human development and family studies/services. Sharing a major name of human development and family studies will help place Iowa State University within its peer set and better identify its programs as a good fit for students interested in research and graduate studies in the field.

**Effect on program configuration:** Faculty appointments will not change with this name change. All faculty currently reside within the Department of Human Development and Family Studies. The newly named major will require the same total number of credit hours, with some reorganization around an expanded core leading to three areas of specialization.

**Effect on students:** The impact on current ChFS majors will be minimal. Classes and program requirements will not change significantly, and options within the newly named Human Development and Family Studies major will reflect areas of specialization in i) health, well-being, and prevention, ii) administration, policy, and advocacy, and iii) child development and guidance.

**Effect on resources:** The proposed change will not require new resources.

**Date of implementation:** July 2021.