ABOUT THE PROGRAM
The Child, Youth & Family major examines the psychological, social and physical conditions which influence the
growth and development of children and adolescents. While the primary focus of the major is on children and youth, the
program regards the family as the primary context of development and as the key to successful interventions for
children with developmental, behavioural, or socio-emotional difficulties. Courses in child and youth development,
physiology, couple and family dynamics, research methodology and statistics are taught by recognized leaders in their
fields and provide theoretical and first-hand experience with children and youth.

WHY CO-OP?
As a co-op student, you will gain relevant work experience, build professional networks and develop essential
interpersonal skills needed to succeed in the workplace while getting paid and earning your university degree. Guelph’s
coop program is unique due to the exceptional level of support provided, including an in-class preparatory course, a
personal connection with a Co-op Co-ordinator to assist you during the employment process, and access to senior student
mentors.

COURSE SEQUENCING
In the Child, Youth & Family co-op program, you will participate in three co-op work terms in addition to eight
academic semesters throughout your four years at the University of Guelph. This sequencing is viewable below:
SAMPLE EMPLOYERS*

- St. Joseph’s Health Centre
- Toronto District School Board
- City of Guelph
- University of Guelph, Child Care & Learning Centre
- Gambling Research Exchange Ontario

*This shows a sample of recent co-op employers, and will vary depending on employer recruitment needs. During a job search, students are encouraged to be actively engaged and are supported in establishing and maintaining their own personal contacts.

SAMPLE JOBS

Below are some examples of past Child, Youth & Family co-op positions.

**Residential Care Worker**

Duties in this position revolve around creating a comfortable and relaxed environment where youth receive nurturing programming reflective of their interests. You will plan and coordinate community recreational programs for youth while ensuring their safety and welfare at all times. Additionally, this role will require you to maintain professional and confidential relationships with clients, families, and agency officials.

**Teaching Assistant**

As a Teaching Assistant in a Toddler or Preschool aged setting, you will assist Daycare Teachers in providing high quality daily supervision and programming for children aged 18 months to 5 years. You will also communicate with parents and learn to demonstrate a responsive style of interaction, while working within the philosophical framework of the centre.

**Knowledge Repository Assistant**

Many duties will be performed in this role to support the maintenance of a company’s data and research records. You will verify data, perform quality assurance checks, create new records, and report changes that are needed. Excellent organization and time management skills are required for this position, and you will actively develop your Microsoft Office proficiency, as well as database management knowledge.

**Additional Sample Jobs:** Human Resources Generalist Trainee, Policy and Research Assistant, Outdoor Education Teaching Intern, Life Skills Assistant, Data/Research Analyst Assistant, Social Media Representative, Communications Assistant, and more.

SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE ACQUIRED

- Comprehensive background in child development, parent-child relations, family relationships, and research methodology
- Ability to plan and evaluate children and youth programs
- Communication skills to deal clearly and professionally with sensitive social and political issues
- Exceptional teamwork and organizational skills

**SALARY INFORMATION** Average Weekly Salary Range: $480 - $540*

*Salary ranges are shown as rates before deductions. Statistics are based on jobs held by co-op students in 2016. These ranges may fluctuate on an annual basis in response to economic conditions.

**CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION & CAREER SERVICES**

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