

# Rural Human Services

College of Rural and Community Development  
Statewide Programs 907-474-5440  
Chukchi Campus 907-442-3400  
Interior-Aleutians Campus 907-474-5440  
Kuskokwim Campus 907-543-4500  
Northwest Campus 907-443-2201  
www.iac.uaf.edu/RHS/

## Occupational Endorsement; Certificate

Minimum Requirements for Occupational Endorsement: 16 Credits;  
for Certificate: 32 Credits

The rural human services programs are designed to develop strong and healthy rural Alaska Native individuals, families and communities. They provide entry-level training for students preparing for careers as natural helpers/healers in village-based public, private and volunteer human service organizations. The curriculum draws extensively on resource people from the Native community and reflects a strong multi-cultural orientation that validates, incorporates and builds on Native values and principles.

The occupational endorsement is a concentrated course of study focused on rural behavioral health services which meets the training requirements for Behavioral Health Aide I credentials as developed by the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium. The endorsement can also serve as a “stepping stone” to the certificate. Both the Alaska Division of Behavioral Health and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium are currently developing and defining competencies and credentials for Alaska behavioral health care workers. The occupational endorsement program directly parallels the entry level competencies training required under these new systems.

The certificate program provides additional credentials for service providers who work in related fields and would like additional training in rural behavioral health services. Providers who may want such training could include health aides, family service workers, correctional workers and teachers. Courses are presented as a series of four intensive three-week training sessions at selected delivery sites. A practicum and electives round out the program.

Admission is open to anyone employed by a regional Native health corporation or local entity providing village-based human services, or to individuals recognized by their communities as natural helpers/healers. A high school diploma or GED and/or previous training or work experience in the delivery of village-based human services are recommended but not required.

This degree program is delivered collaboratively within the UA system.

## Occupational Endorsement Program

1. Complete the general university requirements (page 86).
2. Complete the occupational endorsement requirements (page 88).
3. Complete the following:
  - RHS F110—Cross Cultural Bridging.....1
  - RHS F115—Issues of Personal Development.....1
  - RHS F120—Family Systems I.....2
  - RHS F130—Processes of Community Change.....2
  - RHS F140—Alaska Native Values and Principles.....1
  - RHS F150—Introduction to Rural Counseling.....2
  - RHS F260—Addictions: Intervention and Treatment\*.....2
  - RHS F275—Introduction to Mental Health Recovery.....2
  - RHS F285—Case Management.....2
4. Minimum credits required.....16

Note: See your advisor if you are not sure which catalog year to use.

## Certificate Program

1. Complete the general university requirements (page 86).
2. Complete the certificate requirements. (See page 88. As part of the certificate requirements, complete RHS F110 and F115 for the human relations requirement. The communication and computation courses must be completed from the certificate requirements.)
3. Complete the following courses:
  - RHS F120—Family Systems I\*.....2
  - RHS F130—Processes of Community Change.....2
  - RHS F140—Alaska Native Values and Principles.....1
  - RHS F150—Introduction to Rural Counseling\*.....2
  - RHS F220—Family Systems II\*.....2
  - RHS F250—Rural Counseling II\*.....2
  - RHS F260—Addictions: Intervention and Treatment\*.....2
  - RHS F265—Interpersonal Violence\*.....2
  - RHS F275—Introduction to Mental Health Recovery.....2
  - RHS F285—Case Management\*.....2
  - RHS F287—Rural Human Services Practicum.....4
  - RHS F290—Grief and Healing\*.....2
4. Minimum credits required.....32

\* The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Certification review board has approved these courses toward certification or recertification of Substance Abuse Counselors in the state of Alaska.

Note: Students spend the time in intensive study at selected delivery sites.