
ASSOCIATE OF ARTS DEGREE

HUMAN SERVICES

OVERVIEW

The basic premise of this program is that there is a common core of attitudes, skills and knowledge that apply to a variety of settings in the human services. Individuals equipped with these competencies can make effective contributions to agencies involved in mental health, education, welfare, retardation, corrections and other areas.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Many health and human services agencies are seeking individuals who have less than a baccalaureate degree, but are sophisticated enough to be effective workers.

This program is concerned with the preparation of individuals as mental health workers, psychiatric aides, social service workers, workers for developmentally disabled, and workers with the elderly. The availability of trained paraprofessionals in these areas could make such services available to the public more efficiently and effectively.

The goal of the program is to educate, in two years, a generalist worker who could move into a wide range of mental health and/or human services fields.

Human services paraprofessionals held several thousand government jobs during the 1990s. Government agencies employ a significant portion of the paraprofessionals to deal with such issues as poverty, crime, public assistance, population policy, social rehabilitation, community development, mental health, racial and ethnic studies, and environmental impact studies.

