Professional Organizations

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Students interested in pursuing careers in counseling, social work or related professions may want to visit the following websites for more information. While this list is far from exhaustive, it can serve as a starting point in helping students decide on career options

[American Counseling Association](http://www.counseling.org/):

Dedicated to the growth and development of the counseling profession and those who are served.

[American Psychological Association](http://www.apa.org/):

Based in Washington, D.C., the APA is a scientific and professional organization that represents psychology in the United States. With more than 50,000 members, APA is the largest association of psychologists worldwide.

[American School Counselor Association](http://www.schoolcounselor.org/):

The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) is a worldwide nonprofit organization based in Alexandria, Va. ASCA supports school counselors' efforts to help students focus on academic, personal/social and career development so they not only achieve success in school but are prepared to lead fulfilling lives as responsible members of society. The association provides professional development, publications and other resources, research and advocacy to nearly 14,000 professional school counselors around the globe.

[American Society for Public Administration](http://www.aspanet.org/public/):

Since 1939 ASPA has been the nation’s most respected society representing all forums in the public service arena. The ASPA advocates for greater effectiveness in government ‐ agents of goodwill and professionalism ‐ publishers of democratic journalism at its very best ‐ purveyors of progressive theory and practice and providers of global citizenship. ASPA believes that by embracing new ideas, addressing key public service issues, and promoting change at both the local and international levels, we can enhance the quality of lives worldwide.

[Association of Fundraising Professionals](http://www.afpnet.org/):

The Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) represents 26,000 members in 170 chapters throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, and China working to advance philanthropy through advocacy, research, education, and certification programs.

Center for Credentialing & Education:

The Center for Credentialing & Education (CCE) created the Human Services – Board Certified

Practitioner (HS‐BCP™) with the assistance of the National Organization for Human Services (NOHS) in consultation with the Council for Standards in Human Service Education (CSHSE). The credentialing process was designed for human services practitioners seeking to advance their careers by acquiring independent verification of their practical knowledge and educational background.

[Council for Standards in Human Service Education](http://www.cshse.org/):

The CSHSE is organized into regions with regional directors who work with schools to achieve accreditation and an understanding of the standards for human service education in 2-year, 4-year, and graduate programs.

[Child Life Council](http://www.childlife.org/):

The Child Life Council (CLC), formed in 1982, is a professional organization representing personnel from hospitals, clinics, university settings and others involved in the child life field. The CLC membership is composed of child life specialists, educators, students, and others who use play, recreation, education, self‐expression, and theories of child development to promote psychological well-being and optimum development of children, adolescents, and their families.

National Board for Certified Counselors and Affiliates:

NBCC, an independent, not for‐profit credentialing body for counselors, was incorporated in 1982 to establish and monitor a national certification system, to identify those counselors who have voluntarily sought and obtained certification, and to maintain a register of those counselors.

[National Clinical Social Work License](http://www.dpr.delaware.gov/boards/socialworkers/newlicense.shtml):

Check website for details regarding the procedures for applying to sit for the national clinical social work licensing examination.

[National Council on Family Relations](http://www.ncfr.org/):

The National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) provides a forum for family researchers, educators, and practitioners to share in the development and dissemination of knowledge about families and family relationships, establishes professional standards, and works to promote family well‐being.

[National Organization for Human Services](http://www.nationalhumanservices.org/):

The National Organization for Human Services (NOHS) is a national organization whose mission is to strengthen the community of human services by: Expanding professional development opportunities; promoting professional and organizational identity through certification; enhancing internal and external communications; advocating and implementing a social policy and agenda; nurturing the financial sustainability and growth of the organization.