The Bachelor of Science degree in Rehabilitation and Human Services (RHS) prepares students for positions in a variety of human service settings, particularly settings that provide services to persons with physical, emotional, or mental disabilities. Examples of client groups RHS professionals work with include people with mental, cognitive, developmental, addiction, sensory, and/or physical disabilities and chronic illness; people experiencing violence; people living in poverty; and people who are homeless.

Gain Marketable Experience in College

RHS students learn a variety of professional skills including advocating for others; assessing client needs; conducting educational and support groups; consulting with professionals from other agencies; developing client treatment plans; identifying and using community resources; interviewing clients and family members; managing client caseloads; and resolving conflicts. The full-semester (15-credit) internship is provided under the supervision of professionals in human service agencies. These intensive “hands-on” experiences are frequently avenues for employment since the internship is completed during the senior year.

After Graduation

Graduates work in entry-level positions in a variety of settings including community mental health programs, group homes, schools, drug and alcohol programs, hospitals and medical settings, corrections facilities, and rehabilitation centers. As the American with Disabilities Act of 1990 continues to be implemented, there will be increased emphasis on services to persons with severe disabilities, as well as on independent living, supported employment, and transitional services.

Admission Process

Applying for degree admission to Penn State Berks is simple. Applications are available on the web at berks.psu.edu. Penn State reviews applications throughout the year. Students can expect a decision within four to six weeks after completing the process. Contact Berks Admissions Office with your questions at 610-396-6060.

Transfer Students

Penn State Berks welcomes students who began their education at other institutions. Prospective transfer students are invited to use the online course evaluation guide at admissions.psu.edu/myadmissions/tas as a preliminary tool to learn how credits earned at another institution can be transferred to Penn State. Contact the Berks Admissions Office with your transfer questions at 610-396-6060.

Financial Aid

Eligibility for all financial aid is determined by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form available on the web at fafsa.ed.gov. Contact the financial aid coordinator at Berks or check the web at psu.edu/studentaid for a complete description of the types of available student aid and the application process at 610-396-6070.