

**GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE** from Vanderbilt Peabody College:

# Pediatric Psychosocial Care

This certificate will prepare future youth-serving professionals with a unique set of research and practice skills to understand and respond to the psychosocial needs of children and families with special healthcare needs. Meeting these needs can lead to more positive healthcare encounters and improved behavioral, psychological and academic outcomes for the most vulnerable children and youth.



Through this certificate, students will develop knowledge and skills relevant to understanding the complex psychosocial needs of children, adolescents and families in health care settings and situations; to conducting pediatric healthcare research with children and their families; to identifying evidence-based techniques for improving the quality and efficacy of medical and psychosocial care and research with/for children; to identifying seminal and contemporary theories of loss and grief; and to examining interventions that positively impact loss and grief trajectories for children and families.

## QUICK FACTS

**Required Hours:** 12 credit hours are needed to earn this certificate. See the [certificate website](#) for course details.

**Prerequisites:** Completed bachelor's degree and current enrollment in a Vanderbilt graduate or professional degree program; successful completion of undergraduate or graduate coursework in child development and research methods

**Certificate Directors:** [Vicki Harris](#), Associate Professor of the Practice, Psychology and Human Development; [Jessika Boles](#), Assistant Professor of the Practice, Psychology and Human Development

**Home Academic Department:** Psychology and Human Development

**Best Suited For:** Current Peabody and Vanderbilt master's students with interests in research and practice related to the psychosocial needs of children and families in healthcare settings

**To Enroll:** Let us know of your interest in this certificate by completing the form at [vu.edu/pbdc-certs](https://vu.edu/pbdc-certs). You may also email [peabodycertificates@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:peabodycertificates@vanderbilt.edu).



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This certificate will offer professional students the opportunity to develop a series of skills in research and practice to address the complex psychosocial needs of pediatric patients and their families facing serious healthcare challenges.”



Vicki Harris, Certificate Director  
Associate Professor of the Practice, Psychology and Human Development

### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Research or practice settings where children with special healthcare needs are served:

Hospitals • Schools • Youth-Serving Community Settings

### REQUIRED COURSES

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- » The Hospitalized Child (PSY-PC 7210)
- » Pediatric Research Design (PSY-PC 7220)
- » Play-Based Intervention (PSY-PC 7230)
- » Death, Grief, and Loss (PSY-PC 7500)

**Note:** Not all Peabody professional programs include enough elective credits to make earning an additional certificate possible. Students are encouraged to confer with their program director as well as with certificate directors to ensure they can meet all requirements for both degree and certificate programs. Courses listed are subject to change.