

**CHILD PROTECTION  
CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

Academic Year 2019-2020



## CHILD PROTECTION CERTIFICATE (CPC) PROGRAM

The Harvard François-Xavier Bagnoud (FXB) Center for Health and Human Rights offers Harvard graduate students the opportunity to obtain a certificate in child protection. This interdisciplinary qualification is open to students from any Harvard graduate school.

Child protection work aims to prevent, respond to, and resolve abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence experienced by children in domestic and international settings. It requires an interdisciplinary and multi-sectoral approach that encompasses work in health, education, social service, public policy, and law enforcement to advance the protection of children. It also involves collaborating with a wide range of partners across government and within civil society, communities, and families.

The certificate program incorporates ongoing child protection research and practice grounded in field-based realities. It takes into account the expertise of UNICEF, a university-wide faculty steering committee, and external child protection experts.

With this comprehensive graduate-level training, certificate recipients will be better equipped to:

- Identify relevant social, economic, legal, and cultural issues affecting the protection of children
- Build a stronger child protection evidence base by engaging in more rigorous research, monitoring, evaluation, and use of data
- Understand the multiple interactions at policy, community, family, and individual levels needed to create a protective environment for children
- Gain the competencies to develop the cross-sectoral partnerships necessary to a holistic child protection system





The CPC curriculum is composed of courses selected from across Harvard's graduate programs and covers five domains of child protection:

## **CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEMS**

- *Law and policy*
- *Systems capacity and integration*
- *Data/statistics*
- *Birth registration*

## **VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN**

- *Protection from violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect*
- *Protection in emergencies*
- *Impact of violence on children*

## **JUSTICE FOR CHILDREN**

- *Children in Contact with the Law: family court; foster care; criminal witness*
- *Children in Conflict with the Law: Detention/Diversion*

## **SOCIAL CHANGE/FAMILY STRENGTHENING**

- *Social Protection*
- *Social inclusion/non-discrimination*
- *Cultural and social norms/social change*

## **CHILD PROTECTION LEADERSHIP TOOLS**

- *Leadership*
- *Negotiation*
- *Advocacy*

For course offerings, visit: [fxb.harvard.edu/child-protection-curriculum](https://fxb.harvard.edu/child-protection-curriculum)

## CPC 2019-2020 REQUIREMENTS

*Participation in a one-semester, non-credit child protection seminar.*

The mandatory seminar will be offered in the spring semester (dates and time to be announced prior). It will enable candidates to consolidate their understanding of the child protection field in both the domestic and international arenas through exchange with invited expert speakers and mentorship by senior child protection practitioners. Students will be encouraged to share their own child protection research and experience and engage with their peers.

*Completion of 12 credits selected from CPC course offerings in at least three of the curriculum's five domains.*

The child protection foundational courses count as one of the domains required to qualify for the certificate.

## CPC APPLICATION & APPROVAL PROCESS

### **Application:**

2019-2020 CPC program candidates are required to complete a short application, consisting of an essay and a proposed list of qualifying CPC courses.

The application form can be found online at:

[fxb.harvard.edu/child-protection-curriculum](http://fxb.harvard.edu/child-protection-curriculum)

Applications will be reviewed by the FXB Child Protection Certificate Program Director, in consultation with the faculty steering committee. Qualified candidates are accepted on a rolling basis until the program reaches a total of 30 students.

### **Approval:**

Prior to graduation, candidates will submit an approval request, detailing their completion of the requirements and providing a statement assessing their program of study. The program director and committee will review these requests against the student's transcripts. Approved candidates will be invited to attend the program's annual spring awards ceremony, where they will receive their certificates, successfully marking completion of the program.