



Nationwide there is a strong demand for high quality Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) teachers with a severe need in rural areas. Consider becoming initially certified, or if already certified, update your skills/certification with a master's degree. Consider these two FCS Education Degree options offered online through Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance (IDEA).

Option A: Master's degree in FCS Education for those seeking initial teacher certification

Option A is a 38- to 41-credit-hour program of study for students with a bachelor's degree in a FCS Education content specialization or a related area who seek initial teacher certification or licensure in FCS Education. This includes 2-6 credit hours of practicum and 6-9 credit hours of student teaching (depending on certification requirements and student's previous degree). Standards for teacher certification vary by state. Students are responsible for identifying and meeting requirements in the state where they want to be certified. This may include additional coursework, tests, or other requirements.

Option B: Master's degree in FCS Education for certified FCS teachers and professionals

Option B is a 36-credit-hour program of study for professionals in FCS Education including certified teachers who seek professional development and career advancement. This program provides continuing education to maintain and sustain high quality FCS programs in middle and secondary school and other settings.

Courses are offered over a three-year period, with the participating institutions sharing the teaching responsibilities for each course. The degree awarding institution is responsible for placement of students for practicum and internship experiences.

The benefits of online learning include:

- Advancing your career
- Increasing your earning potential
- Maintain work/family commitments
- Experiencing learning from leaders in FCS Education
- Planning your program with a competent advisor

The Universities involved in this program include: Central Washington University, North Dakota State University, South Dakota State University, Texas Tech University, and University of Nebraska-Lincoln. For more information check out the Great Plains IDEA website.

<http://www.hsidea.org/programs/fcsed/>