

Nomination to the DHS STEM Designated Degree Program List:
CIP 42.2710 Developmental and Adolescent Psychology

I am writing on behalf of the Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences ([FABBS](#)), a coalition of 27 scientific societies and nearly 60 academic departments whose members share a commitment to advancing knowledge in the sciences of the mind, brain, and behavior.

I write to nominate CIP 42.2710 Developmental and Adolescent Psychology to the DHS STEM Designated Degree Program List. The National Center for Education Statistics [defines](#) 42.2710 as “A program that focuses on the scientific study of the unique stages of psychological growth and development of individuals from adolescence to adulthood. Includes instruction in cognitive and perceptual development, emotional development, personality development, the effects of biological maturation on behavior, theories of cognitive growth and related research methods, testing and assessment methods for different age levels, research on child and adolescent behavior therapy, and the psychology of aging.”

According to the Society for Research on Adolescence (SRA), Developmental and Adolescent Psychology fits into the scope of STEM programs, similar to Developmental and Child Psychology, which have been designated as eligible for the F1 extension. These programs provide students with training in rigorous statistical and methodological training that prepares them to conduct empirical research and analysis on the second decade of life. This training includes experimental, quasi-experimental, and correlational research methods. In addition, students in this subdiscipline gain training in biomedical sciences, particularly related to pubertal development, brain development, neuroimaging, health processes, and biomarker research. Training in Developmental and Adolescent Psychology also develops students’ analytical, problem-solving, and collaborative skills. Graduates from programs in this subdiscipline can pursue careers in universities, research institutes, governmental agencies, NGOs, and private companies.

CIP 42.2710 is a new code created by NCES and added to its decennial 2020 update to the CIP and all other CIP codes under 42.27, Research and Experimental Psychology are included in the most recent DHS STEM Designated Degree Program List. Developmental and Adolescent Psychology is generally recognized as a STEM discipline across federal science agencies. The National Science Foundation supports research in adolescent psychology through its [Developmental Sciences program](#) in the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate, and the [portfolio of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development \(NICHD\) includes adolescent psychology](#). Additionally, domestic students in this subdiscipline are eligible for support from the [NSF Scholarships in STEM program](#).

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input. We look forward to the addition of Developmental and Adolescent Psychology to the DHS STEM Designated Degree Program List. Please do not hesitate to contact FABBS with any questions.