



Council for Standards in Human Service Education

Assuring the quality, consistency, and relevance of human service education programs.

<http://www.cshse.org>

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July 1, 2021

Lynne Kellner, PhD
Fitchburg State University
160 Pearl Street Fitchburg
Fitchburg, MA 01420

Dear Dr. Kellner,

It is my privilege to inform you that the Human Services baccalaureate program at Fitchburg State University has been reaccredited by the Council for Standards in Human Service Education (CSHSE) for the period June 2021 through June 2026.

The program is in compliance with all standards and is accredited with no conditions.

PROGRAM STRENGTHS

The Readers of your self-study and Site Visitors have identified the following strengths of your program:

- Longevity of program accreditation
- Program offers strong curriculum
- Program strengthened the curriculum with skill-based assessments that included authored pieces and creating teaching videos.
- Standard 3b Maintains a diverse advisory board
- Responsive to pandemic by restructuring internship and communicating with Advisory Board
- Standard 5d: Program works with students to understand professional behaviors and provides individual coaching to assist students with future decisions
- Standard 8a Program offers strong cultural competency opportunities and follows through with many opportunities for personal reflection and dialog.
- The NOHS Code of Ethics is incorporated into the course curriculum.
- Standard 19 The students are strongly supported in internship placement with a comprehensive internship manual, clear explanations of internship stages, and clear communication and feedback between student, faculty, and agency supervisors.
- Students receive faculty support throughout the program.
- Faculty members have longevity and only 15% of offered program courses are taught by adjuncts.
- The program successfully transitioned to virtual instruction during the pandemic.
- Program is increasing enrollment by marketing with two-year programs

CSHSE July 1, 2021

The next accreditation cycle will be an Interim Report and Review and must be completed by June 2026. There will be no site visit. **A copy of this letter must be included in your next self-study.**

As an accredited program, the Program must regularly review information on the CSHSE website, <https://cshse.org>, for any new changes in policies and standards. Your program must use the standards that are in effect at the time when the application is submitted for the next cycle.

During this accreditation cycle, your accredited program has the responsibility to maintain active CSHSE membership each year of the accreditation cycle for the accreditation status to remain in good standing. (Membership Handbook, Accreditation and Self-Study Guidelines, July 2020, p. 7). Additionally, the accredited program shall ensure that the program representative contact information remains current with CSHSE and ASCENT Management, LLC and is updated as needed.

Please refer to the Board actions for maintaining accreditation in Appendix I of the July 2020 Member Handbook, pp. 96-97. Your Program must ensure that program and student achievement indicators on the CSHSE website remain accurate (within 2 years of the current academic year) and the hyperlinks remain active. The CSHSE will review this information at each board meeting, February, June, and October. Contact the CSHSE VPA or ASCENT Management, LLC if a hyperlink must be revised so that our website is current with your program information.

Congratulations on continuing your program accreditation and supporting quality human service education. A formal certificate, signed by our President, Dr. Yvonne Chase, will be forthcoming.

Very sincerely,



Winona Schappell, M.Ed.
CSHSE Vice President of Accreditation

Cc: Dr. Christine Shane, Chair of Behavioral Science
Dr. Franca Barricelli, Dean of School of Arts and Sciences
Dr. Alberto Cardelle, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
Dr. Yvonne Chase, CSHSE President
Ms. Cheryl McGill, Lead Reader and Site Visitor
Dr. Nicole Jackson Walker, Board Member at Large consultant