



# Council for Standards in Human Service Education

*Assuring best practices in Human Service Education through  
evidence-based standards and a peer-review accreditation process*

<https://cshse.org>

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July 1, 2021

Dr. Bill Garris, Human Services Program Coordinator  
East Tennessee State University  
Box 70701  
Johnson City, TN 37614

Dear Dr. Garris,

The CSHSE Board reviewed the submitted information requested based upon the conditional accreditation decision and approved the removal of the conditional accreditation status. East Tennessee State University Human Services baccalaureate program is now accredited with no conditions from February 2021-February 2026. A site visit will be required for the February 2026 reaccreditation cycle.

The Readers noted many strengths of the program:

- Information about the program is readily available to students
- Expected professional behaviors of the students is clearly articulated
- Students are exposed to various theoretical orientations
- Reinforcement of human service skills over a number of classes
- The use of the teaching strategy of “observe, practice, initiate” provides sound theoretical base for educating students.
- A strong focus on diversity in the curriculum and training for faculty and staff.
- Good coordination between Admissions Office and the program
- The program uses norm-referenced qualitative data and validated instruments to find common program themes
- A diverse advisory board
- Well-articulated agreements with agencies
- Majority of faculty hold doctoral degrees and have varied experience working with service populations and agencies.
- Faculty actively publish in peer reviewed journals and are active at the regional and national levels of Human Service organizations.

### **Additional Recommendations**

The CSHSE Board noted that the program is addressing skill-based instruction in case management and group facilitation and strengthening the program with new instructors who are placing more emphasis on skill-based training within multiple human service courses. To continue strengthening the Program with skill-based learning, the Program may wish to consider including specific skill-based learning objectives and assessments in the course outlines used for this accreditation period and/or requiring dedicated skill-based courses to ensure student learning of skills and compliance of standards and specifications.

The next accreditation cycle will include a site visit and must be completed for the June 2025 Board review. **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. Refer to the Member Handbook, Accreditation and Self-Study Guidelines for

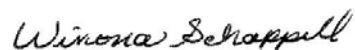
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updated information. Additionally, the accredited program shall ensure that the program representative contact information remains current with CSHSE and ASCENT Management, LLC and is updated as needed.

Please refer to the Board actions for maintaining accreditation in Appendix I of the Member Handbook. 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. A formal certificate, signed by our President, Dr. Yvonne Chase, will be forthcoming.

Sincerely,



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

CC: Dr. Wilsie Bishop, Interim Provost, VPAA  
Dr. Janna Scarborough, Interim Dean  
Dr. Yvonne Chase, CSHSE President and serving as Board Member-at-Large consultant  
Dr. Lynne Kellner, Lead Reader