



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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07/10/2023

Mr. Brian MacKenna-Rice, Coordinator
Human Services Program
Northern Essex Community College
100 Elliot St.
Haverhill, MA 01830
Re: CSHSE Board accreditation decision

Dear Mr. Brian MacKenna-Rice,

The CSHSE Board reviewed the Reader reports and voted to **reaccredit the Human Services Associate Degree program at Northern Essex Community College with no conditions**. The program's **interim** cycle will be from June 2023 to June 2028.

The Readers noted many strengths of the program:

- The program has longevity since 1972
- Faculty have diverse education and experiences working in the field of human services
- Program uses a bio-psycho-social-spiritual philosophical approach using a mantra, "treat the whole person."
- Faculty are trained for online teaching through the "I Teach" technical training program.
- The program has an active advisory board with several community partner agencies.
- Program participates in the MASS Transfer articulations.
- The program's curriculum uses multiple student learning approaches to address diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- The program's curriculum includes creative learning activities such as the Persistence Project.

Recommendations not related to standard compliance

- Written narrative responses should be focused, concise, and succinct when describing compliance.
- Monitor for consistency of credit number requirements between narrative responses. Focus only on the degree which is seeking accreditation and less on the additional certificates that the program offers.



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The next accreditation cycle will be an **reaccreditation cycle with a site visit**. The self-study submission must be completed within the timeline for the **June 2028** Board review. **A copy of this letter must be included with 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 updated information. Additionally, the accredited program shall ensure that the program representative contact information remains current with CSHSE 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 during the year: February, June, and October. Contact the CSHSE VPA if a hyperlink must be revised so that our website is current with your program information.

Congratulations on continuing accreditation with the Council for Standards in Human Service Education continuing as an accredited program/ becoming accredited and supporting quality and excellence human services education.

A formal certificate, signed by our President, Dr. Yvonne Chase, will be forthcoming.

Sincerely,

Julia M. Becerra

Julia M. Becerra Bernard, Ph.D., LMFT, CFLE, CCTP (she, her, hers)
Vice President of Accreditation
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Cc: Brian MacKenna-Rice, Program Director
Jody Carson, Dean, Business and Professional School
Dr. Paul Beaudin, Provost
Dr. Yvonne Chase, CSHSE President
Dr. Katherine Pauling, Lead Reader
Dr. Nicole Kras, CSHSE Board Member-at-Large