

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Academic and Student Affairs
Consent

AGENDA ITEM: 4 – L
DATE: December 11-12, 2019

SUBJECT

Request to Seek Accreditation – SDSU

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

[BOR Policy 1:10](#) – Relationship of Curriculum and Instruction to Statutory Objectives

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Board of Regents Policy 1:10 specifies that “Each campus must seek and receive Board approval before applying for initial accreditation or an expanded scope of accreditation for academic programs.” In accordance with Board policy, South Dakota State University requests approval to seek accreditation from the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) for their Marriage and Family Counseling Specialization within their MS in Counseling & Human Resource Development program (Attachment I).

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC), a regional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, awards institutional accreditation for higher education institutions in South Dakota. A variety of unique organizations award specialized/program accreditation within distinct programs or departments at Regental institutions. A general reference document on institutional and specialized/program accreditation is available on the academic Reports and Accountability [webpage](#) of the BOR website.

- [Special Analysis: Accreditation in Higher Education](#)

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION

Accreditation ensures that SDSU’s programs meet professional standard and prove an education comparable to other accredited programs across the country. SDSU anticipates an initial one-time cost of \$13,000 associated in adding the specialization to the accreditation review.

Board staff recommends approval.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment I – Request to Seek Accreditation Form: Counseling & Human Resource Development (M.S.) – Marriage and Family Counseling Specialization (SDSU)

DRAFT MOTION 20191211_4-L:

I move to approve SDSU’s requests to seek accreditation from the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) for their MS in Counseling & Human Resource Development – Marriage and Family Counseling Specialization.



SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS

Request to Seek Accreditation

Use this form to request permission to seek accreditation of an approved program. Board of Regents (BOR) action is required to seek program accreditation.

UNIVERSITY:	SDSU
PROGRAM:	Counseling & Human Resource Development (M.S.) – Marriage and Family Counseling Specialization
CIP CODE:	51.1508
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	Counseling & Human Development
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	Education & Human Sciences

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

President of the University

Click here to enter a
10-10-2019
Date

Date

1. Level of program seeking accreditation (place an "X" in the appropriate box):

- Certificate Associate Bachelor's
 Doctoral Master's

2. Accrediting Agency:

CACREP – The Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs

3. What are the advantages of accreditation?

Accreditation for the Marriage and Family Counseling specialization through CACREP would provide standards by which to gauge performance with other such programs across the nation. It would also provide quality assurance and promote continuous improvement. In addition, graduates would be able to complete the National Counselor Exam earlier than non-accredited program graduates. Finally, all MS specializations offered within the CHRD Program will then be nationally accredited.

4. What are the anticipated costs involved in accreditation, including:**A. Costs involved in undergoing self-study and preparing the application for accreditation:**

Faculty release time for 3 credits/semester, which would cost approximately \$4500.

B. Out-of-pocket costs related to dues or site visits:

Since four of our other counseling specialty areas are currently CACREP accredited, we would not incur additional expenses for yearly dues or regular site visits. However, since the Marriage and Family specialization would be considered “new”, we may need to host an initial site visit in 2021. The cost for an initial site visit would be \$8,500.

C. Base budget implications including incremental costs and minimum base resources required (dollars and FTE):

There is a yearly accreditation maintenance fee with CACREP of \$3,990, regardless of the number of specialty programs.

5. What is the source of the revenue needed?

The CHRD credits have a program fee associated. This fee was designed to support accreditation related costs along with related expenses. These fees would be utilized along with departmental budget funds and other supplemental resources from campus budgets such as the Accreditation Support Fund, etc.

6. What is the estimated date for submission of accreditation application?

Fall of 2020 or Spring of 2021