



Council on Rehabilitation Education

An Inclusive World, Access for All

Developing Professional Preparation Standards for  
Graduate and Undergraduate Training in  
Rehabilitation Education since 1972

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## Conference Call Talking Points

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Frank Lane, Executive Director, Presents:

### **What is the timeline of CORE major activities?**

Pressure to merge from accredited programs and appointing organizations for the past five years. Since the Oct 2011 survey- 81% of programs said work something out on behalf of our students up to and including merger.

Sept 2012- Consortium model proposed to GC and CACREP. CACREP proposed we go back to the merger document.

April 2013 board voted themselves to be independent. why? appointing association was to vote on a motion to make their reps submit a motion to the CORE board to merge.

July 2013- affiliation relationship with CACREP- conversion of programs.

July 2015- merge.

### **CORE and CACREP made a decision to merge**

The decision to merge was a business decision for the CORE board. The CORE board was also thinking about students in accredited programs in terms of employment opportunities and the end users of counseling services, persons with disabilities, being served by the graduates of CORE accredited programs.

### **Business decision**

1. Phase II of the affiliation agreement was delayed for the past year because of the cost associated with asking programs to maintain two types of accreditation.
2. CACREP's costs have increased and CORE's costs have increased based in large part on increased pressure by the federal government and CHEA to change how we accredit.
  - A. More pressure to monitor programs performance by verifying accuracy of the information programs put on their website.
  - B. Pressure to define terms of accreditation in a way that conveys quality to consumers. No longer acceptable for a program to receive accreditation with 12 or 14 conditions. This places a larger burden on the accreditor to provide training to programs pursuing accreditation. Also, more emphasis at the front end to screen applications and self-studies.
  - C. CHEA requires programs to have student outcomes on their website. (e.g. cost of education, employability upon graduation, earning potential, passing rate for the CRC exam, etc) Why? student loan rate has exceeded the national credit card debt, unemployment rates of graduates: living at home with parents, underemployed, and unable to repay student loans. Consumers of educational

services need to be more information about the program they are deciding to enter. HEA- must become licensed or cant exist.

- D. Cost associated with conversion of programs. Continued return of applications and request for additional information has lengthened the operational component. Demand on volunteers and need for additional staff. Hired additional half time staff member to assist Administrative Assistant. Administrative Assistant is now full-time.
3. Cost associated with increase in CORE and CACREP accreditation would result in programs spending approximately \$6,600 annually just on annual sustaining fees.
4. CORE and CACREP considered splitting the annual sustaining fee but the cost of running the current demands of accreditors prevented a split fee model.
5. Bottom line-the cost associated with running two accrediting organizations is being passed onto the programs at a time when budgets are lean and programs cannot afford increased costs.

### **Students**

1. Concern over restricted practice settings
  - A. TRICARE recommendation to recognize graduates of CACREP programs for TRICARE beneficiaries
  - B. The VA decision to hire only CACREP grads for MH practice
  - C. The US Army decision to only hire CACREP grads for addictions practice
  - D. WIOA not recognizing masters level rehabilitation counselors, which is the bread and butter of CORE accreditation
  - E. Notice of proposed rulemaking- RSA- no recognition of CORE accredited programs by NCRE, RCC, CRCC
2. Problems with licensure
  - A. NBCC only accepting graduates from CACREP programs to sit for the NCE as of 2022
  - B. Movement by counselor licensure boards to only accept graduates from CACREP only accredited programs (e.g. Kentucky)

### **People with disabilities**

1. Need to make sure that PWD are being served by counselors who have the training to work with them.

### **Rehabilitation Counseling Practice**

1. Need to ensure the continuation of RC practice.

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Break

Patty Nunez, President, Presents:

### **Elements of the CORE-CACREP merger agreement for the July 22, 2015 conference call:**

1. On the initiation date, CACREP will adopt CORE undergraduate and graduate standards. (The standards formerly belonging to CORE will be implemented by CACREP effective July 1, 2017)
2. On the initiation date, CACREP will grant CACREP accreditation to all CORE accredited masters programs in traditional rehabilitation counseling through a grandparenting provision that accepts the terms and conditions of accreditation consistent with the programs' current accreditation statuses. (An example would be a program that is accredited through 2021 by CORE and has two outstanding conditions would become a

- rehabilitation counseling program accredited by CACREP through 2021 and would be responsible to CACREP to provide evidence of meeting the conditions by the stated date.)
3. On or before the initiation date, CACREP will extend CACREP accreditation to identified PhD RCE programs for a period of two years, if the programs can demonstrate substantial compliance with specified criteria from CACREP's 2016 accreditation standards for doctoral programs. The specified criteria will be jointly agreed upon by both CORE and CACREP, as will a process for joint review/decision-making by CORE & CACREP. If programs show evidence of meeting the agreed upon threshold standards, they will be granted CACREP accredited status (with conditions, if they exist), but must agree to host a site visit within 6 months to verify accuracy of information provided.
  4. CACREP does not accredit undergraduate programs, accrediting only graduate level counseling programs as part of their recognized scope of accreditation. Therefore, CORE will no longer accept applications for undergraduate accreditation effective July 15, 2015. CACREP will not accredit undergraduate programs. Existing programs will be processed as follows:
    - a. Undergraduate programs currently on the CORE registry may continue their CORE 'registered' status until the date of merger; then on the date of merger they will be automatically be listed on a registry created by CACREP to recognize them as a related educational programs; or
    - b. Currently accredited undergraduate programs may opt to terminate accreditation and move to registry status at any time up to the merger date.
  5. CACREP agrees to insure that its board application and selection process for new board members whose terms will begin July 1, 2017, and beyond attends to the Board's need to include expertise on the Board for the specialization of traditional rehabilitation
  6. CORE will complete its current standards revision process and establish a joint committee with CACREP that is charged to create a set of revised standards for traditional rehabilitation counseling formatted for inclusion as a specialty area in CACREP's 2016 Standards as of June 30, 2017.
  7. CACREP eight common core areas represent the foundational knowledge required of all entry-level counselor education graduates. CACREP agrees that knowledge of disability is foundational to the training of all future counselors. To that end, CACREP and CORE will jointly appoint a task-force to develop recommendations for infusing disability concepts into the counseling core curriculum. The recommendations of the task force will be reviewed and vetted by the CACREP board as part of their normal standards revision process and CORE will be recognized prior to the implementation date of the revised standards for its significant contribution in the infusion of disability concepts into the standards.

**NOTE:** CORE will be developing Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) documents in response to questions so check the CORE website periodically at [www.core-rehab.org](http://www.core-rehab.org) under "What's New?" for updated FAQ documents.