

CORE-CACREP Merger

Frequently Asked Questions

Why did CORE and CACREP decide to merge before the end of the affiliation agreement?

As accrediting agencies, the CORE and CACREP Boards made their decision based on a number of factors affecting accreditation, its accredited programs, students in its accredited programs and the individuals served by its graduates.

Does this mean that Rehabilitation Counseling is going away? No, it does not. The decision to merge CORE and CACREP was done out of respect for Rehabilitation Counseling and a desire to strengthen the counseling specialization by having CACREP accredit the programs because of the name recognition associated with CACREP accreditation.

I am a student in a Rehabilitation Counseling program currently accredited by CORE. What will happen to my program once the merger is finished? On the merger date, July 1, 2017, the program you are attending will continue to exist and the only difference is that it will be accredited by CACREP.

I am a student in a CORE accredited program and I plan to graduate after the merger effective date. Will I still be able to take the CRC exam when I graduate from the CACREP accredited program? Only CRCC can answer this question. However, CRCC evaluates curriculum to determine whether students are prepared to take the certification exam. They do not make their decision based on the organization. Because the curriculum will not change, you should still be able to take the exam. However, we encourage you contact CRCC to obtain the final word on this question. Also, all counselors graduating from CACREP accredited programs, which will include Rehabilitation Counselors on the merger effective date, will be eligible to sit for the NCE administered by the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC).

I am a faculty member at a Rehabilitation Counseling program currently accredited by CORE. What will happen on July 1, 2017? Your program will become a Rehabilitation Counseling program accredited by CACREP. You will submit your annual sustaining fee to CACREP, complete an annual report to CACREP and submit an application and fee to CACREP for reaccreditation before your term expires.

I am a faculty member in a Rehabilitation Counseling program. What does it mean that the CORE standards will be reformatted to align with CACREP's? CACREP's standards are separated into core (little c) standards and specialty standards. CORE's standards are not separated in the same way. Therefore, the part of the current CORE standards that are "program area standards" will be separated from the more general standards.

I am a faculty member in a program that has submitted for conversion to a Clinical Rehabilitation and Clinical Mental Health Counseling program. How will this change affect the conversion process? If your program has already completed conversion, you will remain accredited by both CORE and CACREP through June 30, 2017 at which point you will be accredited by CACREP for these specializations. If your program is still being reviewed, CORE and CACREP will continue to review your program and render its decision at the appropriate time.

What about Phase II of the affiliation agreement? Discussion of what Phase II would look like was one of the factors that led to merger discussion.

If the CORE program is not housed in the same program as a CACREP accredited program at the same university does this mean they need to merge. No. CACREP currently accredits more than one program in several universities that are not housed in the same academic unit.