



# 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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March 13, 2023

Victoria Schultz, M.S., HS-BCP  
Wharton County Junior College  
922 Boling Highway  
Wharton, Texas 77488

Re: CSHSE Board accreditation decision

Dear Ms. Schultz,

The CSHSE Board reviewed the Reader reports and additional requested information and voted to **reaccredit the Human Services associate degree program at Wharton County Junior College with no conditions**. The program's accreditation cycle will be from February 2023 to February 2028.

The Readers and Site Visitors noted many strengths of the program:

- The program was established in 2005.
- The program offers creative learning term projects and assignments, e.g. PSYT 2345 term project, Healing Power of Heritage.
- The program has a strong 2+2 articulation program with the University of Houston.
- The transfer articulation agreements offer an opportunity to start the 4 year degree concurrently with the associated degree program.
- The program is supported by an active advisory board that is comprised of diverse and experienced professionals.
- The Advisory Board is invested in the program by advocating for the program and profession, by providing outreach and recruitment, and by actively hiring graduates. Board members have hired over 36 graduates in recent years. The local Deputy Director of the crisis center is a graduate of the program.
- The advisory board noted how the program prepares ethically responsible critical thinkers with excellent written and verbal skills and who present self professionally.
- The program was able to adapt and effectively meet the needs of students during the COVID pandemic.
- The program and students are supported by a librarian who is knowledgeable about the Human Services program and student-centered in approaches, and ensures updated library holdings, media, databases, and print, that support the Human Services curriculum
- The program, faculty, and students, are supported with advanced learning opportunities by the Distance Education Director.
- Students feel prepared for transfer to a 4-year education as well as a practitioner ready for immediate placement in the work force.
- The program director is directly invested in fieldwork placement of students and works to ensure a good placement before the fieldwork begin.



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The next accreditation cycle will be an Interim Report and Review cycle with no site visit. The self-study submission must be completed within the timeline for the February 2028 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 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 as an accredited program with the Council for Standards in Human Service Education and supporting quality and excellence human services education.

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

Sincerely,

Winona Schappell, CSHSE VPA  
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Don Smith, Dean of Vocational Instruction  
Carol Derkowski, Division Chair of Allied Health  
Ms. Cheryl McGill, Lead Reader  
Dr. Yvonne Chase, CSHSE President