

Clinical Rehabilitation and Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program

Program Outcomes

The Clinical Rehabilitation and Clinical Mental Health Counseling program at East Central University is fully accredited by the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) through September 30, 2017 www.core-rehab.org and through Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) through October 31, 2017 www.cacrep.org. The master's degree program has a goal of admitting 15-20 students per year. The program will accommodate students who want to be full-time students as well as those students who prefer to be working professionals and be part-time students. Student outcomes are evaluated each year on a variety of levels that are part of the overall program evaluation as required by the university.

The program has been accredited through CORE since fall, 1992, and through CACREP since January 30, 2015. The program and curriculum was revised in 2010 in order to be more student-accessible as well as current with rehabilitation and counseling trends. As of spring 2016, there are 82 students enrolled in the program. Approximately 73% of the students are from underrepresented groups, including people with disabilities as well as individuals from the Native American tribes of Oklahoma. Retention rates have remained high during the last three years. There were 9 students who graduated in 2013, 28 students graduated in 2014, and 19 students in 2015. Projected number of graduates in 2016 is 10.

In 2015, the program had two Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) long-term training grants that generated a total of \$298,728.00 in student support in the form of tuition waivers and scholarships. Currently, the program has one Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) long-term training grant that generates a total of \$199,997.00 for the current academic year in student support in the form of tuition waivers and scholarships. For the 2015 academic year, 22 students have received RSA stipends. Many of these students would not have been able to continue their education without those funds. In addition to the RSA stipends, many students have been able to receive financial support through Department of Rehabilitation Services, Tribal education funds, as well as Veterans benefits. Most of the students are able to complete the program within a three year period with the average cost of tuition averaging \$233.81 per semester credit hour.

The students graduating from the program have the opportunity to apply for the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) exam www.crccertification.com during their internship. During their last semester of coursework, students take the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE) which is a nationally normed test indicating knowledge in counseling skills. The Oklahoma Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Board recognizes the curriculum of the degree program, and students are eligible to apply for the LPC exam after successfully completing the program. Currently, the program reports a 32% pass rate on the CRC exam, and 95% are under LPC supervision.

The employment rate for students who have graduated from the program in the last year is currently 100 percent. Students are employed in various settings and occupations which include: Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors for the State of Oklahoma, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors for Tribal VR as well as Educational Counselors for Tribal agencies, private not for profit counseling agencies, Veterans Administration, and University settings.

The Clinical Rehabilitation and Clinical Mental Health Counseling Advisory Board consists of members from Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation, Tribal VR agencies from the Choctaw, Creek, and Chickasaw tribes, private rehabilitation agencies, Independent Living Centers, clinical mental health counseling settings, as well as past students working in the field. The Advisory Board meets at least once per year to be updated about the program and is active in giving feedback to the Program's Director. In addition, the Program Director holds a Student Forum yearly in order to obtain feedback from current students as well as prospective students. Community stakeholders are invited to attend the meetings.