



BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

Our Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) accreditation expired by the end of 2022-2023 academic year. In 2021 we applied for renewal of our accreditation by submitting a self-study of our Rehabilitation Counseling (RC) program. After reviewing our self-study, CACREP recommended that we withdraw the renewal petition and allow our accreditation to lapse. CACREP's primary concerns revolve around the question of professional identity in the program, including designated core faculty and students. This seems to be related to the fact that many of our faculty members are "counseling psychologists", not "counselor educators." For example, since our department also offers a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology our faculty teach in many different counseling and psychology programs, and our faculty teach psychology and conduct research in psychology in addition to teaching counseling. In other words, they are questioning our counselor professional identity. Note: most of our faculty members have been teaching at CACREP accredited counseling programs for years/decades. In addition, we have two faculty members who are nationally certified rehabilitation counselors (CRCs) and two other faculty members who are licensed mental health counselors (LMHCs) in the state of Indiana.

We want you to know that this change will not affect our RC students' eligibility to take the CRC exam and become a nationally certified rehabilitation counselor (CRC). This change also will not affect our RC students' eligibility to become a LMHC in Indiana, for those of you seeking that license.

The Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC) does not require a degree from a CACREP accredited program to sit for the CRC exam. Instead, it requires certain graduate-level courses as defined by CRCC, which we offer and will continue to do. It does require graduating from a regionally accredited institution of higher education, which references the UNIVERSITY's accreditation status, not the program's accreditation. Ball State University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC)-(CHEA).

Indiana does not require a degree from a CACREP accredited program for LMHC licensure. It requires certain curriculum experiences, which we offer and will continue to do.

Most jurisdictions in the USA do not require a degree from a CACREP accredited program to receive licensure as a Mental Health Counselor (e.g. LPC, LMHC, LCPC. Etc.), but some do require it. Please check the web page for the licensure board for the jurisdiction in which you plan to work to verify this and look at the curriculum experiences required for licensure.

College of Health