

***Online Assessment Tracking Database***

Sam Houston State University (SHSU)  
*2014 - 2015*

**Counseling, Department Of**

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**Goal** **Decrease Student Enrollment In The Master's Programs.** 🔑  
 Decrease student enrollment by refraining from recruiting candidates for the Master of Arts and Master of Education.

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**Objective (L)** **Decrease Enrollment In The Master's Programs.** 🔑  
 Enrollment in the Master of Arts and Master of Education programs will decrease in order to meet CACREP faculty student ratio.

**Indicator** **Enrollment Numbers Will Decrease** 🔑  
 Faculty/student ratio will be 1 to 10 to meet CACREP requirements.

**Criterion** **CACREP Faculty Student Ratio** 🔑  
 Faculty/Student ratio in the master's programs will be no more than 1 to 10 in order to meet CACREP standards.

**Finding** **Faculty/Student Ratio** 🔑  
 For school year 2014-2015 more students graduated from the counseling program than new students admitted to the program. Therefore, the enrollment decreased and the department met the 1 to 10 faculty/student ratio as required by CACREP.

**Action** **Recruitment Efforts** 🔑  
 The counseling faculty did not actively seek new students this year as our faculty/student ratio exceeded CACREP guidelines of 1 to 10 for accredited programs.

**Objective (L)** **Decrease Faculty/student Ratio By Hiring Additional Faculty.** 🔑  
 Hire two or three additional faculty to reduce faculty/student ratio.

**Indicator** **Increase The Number Of Counseling Faculty.** 🔑  
 Increase the number of counseling faculty from 9 to 12.

**Criterion** **Faculty/Student Ratio** 🔑  
 The faculty/student ratio will be 1 to 10 as required by CACREP with the addition of three new faculty in the counseling programs.

**Finding** **1 To 10 Faculty/student Ratio** 🔑  
 By adding three new faculty and limited the number of students admitted to the program for fall 2014 and spring 2015 the Counseling Department met the CACREP guideline of 1 faculty to 10 students.

**Action** **Hire New Faculty** 🔑

Two new faculty positions were added and filled for the master's counseling program. In addition, one faculty from other department transferred into the counseling program resulting in three new faculty members added in fall 2014.

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**Goal** **CACREP Accreditation** 🔑

The Clinical Mental Health Program (M.A.), School Counseling (M.Ed.), and Doctoral (Ph.D.) programs will be accredited by CACREP.

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**Objective (P)** **All Programs Accredited** 🔑

All of the current counseling programs are CACREP accredited.

**KPI Performance Indicator** **Current Programs CACREP Accredited** 🔑

Currently, all Counseling programs are accredited. However, we have created a Marriage Couple Family Counseling track under the M.A. degree and are preparing course and program alignment for CACREP accreditation for this new track.

**Result** **Two Accreditation For Counseling Programs** 🔑

CACREP granted the counseling program two years accreditation rather than the entire eight years. We were not granted the full eight years accreditation because we did not have graduates from the M.Ed. 48 hour program and our faculty/student ratio was 1/11 rather than 1/10 as required by CACREP. We have successfully made efforts to meet these two standards by hiring new faculty, limiting enrollment of students to the programs, and now have graduates from the M.Ed. 48 hour program for school counselors.

**Action** **Outcome Of Accreditation Visit** 🔑

The Ph.D. and MA in clinical mental health counseling were reaccredited for two years rather than eight years. Two standards were unmet for the M.Ed. and prevented securing the full eight years accreditation. The unmet standards are: no graduates from the 48 hour M.Ed. program and faculty/student ratio exceeded the 1 to 10 required by CACREP.

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**Goal** **Stakeholders Satisfaction** 🔑

Stakeholders as represented by the advisory committee for the Ph.D., M.A., and M.Ed. are satisfied with the counseling programs.

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**Objective (L)** **Stakeholders Will Approve Of The Counseling Programs.** 🔑

Stakeholders will be members of the advisory committees for the counseling programs and will approve of the courses and learning experiences for students in the programs.

**Indicator**

### Members Of The Advisory Committee Will Be Satisfied With The Programs 🔑

Members of the advisory committee will respond favorably to the courses and learning experiences designed for students in the counseling program. Members will offer feedback to improve the programs and student learning experiences.

#### Criterion

#### Advisory Committee Feedback 🔑

Feedback from the Advisory Committee members will be included in student learning experiences and program requirements as faculty efforts for continuous improvement.

#### Finding

#### Feedback From The Advisory Committee 🔑

Members of the advisory committee expressed support for the counseling programs at the master's and doctoral levels. The advisory committee encouraged the counseling faculty to incorporate more assessments and opportunities for students to utilize assessments in clinical work. The department purchased two assessments and ipads to use with clients seeking counseling services in the Woodlands Counseling Clinic and the Jack Staggs Clinic.

#### Action

#### Stakeholders (Advisory Committee Members) Will Offer Feedback 🔑

Stakeholders as members of the Advisory Committee for each master's and doctoral program will offer feedback regarding the satisfaction with the program and provide specific suggestions to help improve the learning experiences of students to ensure they are prepared for the field of counseling upon graduation.

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### Previous Cycle's "Plan for Continuous Improvement"

No data from previous period.

**Please detail the elements of your previous "Plan for Continuous Improvement" that were implemented. If elements were not implemented please explain why, along with any contextual challenges you may have faced that prevented their implementation.**

No "Plan for Continuous Improvement" was entered for the previous period because the Department of Counselor Education was not a separate department. The department was established as a new department in September 2014. Previously, the counseling programs were part of the Department of Educational Leadership and Counseling.

**Plan for Continuous Improvement - Please detail your plan for improvement that you have developed based on what you learned from your 2014 - 2015 Cycle Findings.**

1) During this school year (2014-2015) it was important for the program to reduce the student faculty ratio to be in compliance with CACREP student/faculty ratio of 1 to 10. This goal was accomplished and our current ratio is between 9 and 10 students to 1 faculty. We will continue to monitor our graduation rate as a guideline for the number of students we can admit to the

program in order to be in compliance with CACREP Standard for student/faculty ratio.

2) Continue to work toward completion of self-study for the Marriage, Couples, and Family Counseling track as part of the Master of Counseling degree. Currently, MCFC faculty are preparing the self-study and plan to submit the study to CACREP in spring 2016.

3) Practicum faculty will continue using the two new assessments for clients. Currently, faculty at the Woodlands Counseling Clinic are utilizing both assessments for clients receiving services at their clinic. This year, some of the practicum faculty at the Jack Staggs Clinic will begin utilizing the two assessment instruments to assess clients current state when entering counseling and then use the instruments to monitor clients progress throughout the time receiving counseling services in the two SHSU clinics.

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