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November 12, 2019

Donde A. Plowman, M.Ed., Ph.D.  
Chancellor  
University of Tennessee at Knoxville  
Office of the Chancellor  
[chancellor@utk.edu](mailto:chancellor@utk.edu)

**RE: Reaffirm Accreditation for 8 Years  
University of Tennessee at Knoxville (TN)  
Master's Social Work Program (MSW)  
2015 Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS)**

Dear Chancellor Plowman:

At its October 2019 meeting, the Commission on Accreditation (COA) reviewed the self-study, the COA *Letter of Instructions*, the *Site Visit Report*, and the program's response to the report as the *Reaffirmation* application for the master's social work program. **The COA voted to Reaffirm Accreditation for 8 years, ending in October 2025, due to a two-year postponement received this cycle.**

COA *Reaffirmation* decision types are described in [policy 2.6 in the EPAS Handbook](#).

Congratulations in this achievement.

Please be in touch with Marilyn Gentner, LMSW, LICSW, Accreditation Specialist in the Department of Social Work Accreditation, if there are any questions about this letter or the procedures and actions of the Commission on Accreditation.

Sincerely,

Deana F. Morrow, PhD, LICSW, ACSW  
Chair, Commission on Accreditation

DFM/MMG

Cc: Lori Messinger, PhD, MA, MSW  
Dean, College of Social Work  
[LMessing@utk.edu](mailto:LMessing@utk.edu)



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November 12, 2019

Donde A. Plowman, M.Ed., Ph.D.  
Chancellor  
University of Tennessee at Knoxville  
Office of the Chancellor  
[chancellor@utk.edu](mailto:chancellor@utk.edu)

**RE:** *Reaffirm for 8 years with a Progress Report  
University of Tennessee at Knoxville (TN)  
Baccalaureate Social Work Program (BSW)  
2015 Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS)*

Dear Chancellor Plowman:

At its October 2019 meeting, the Commission on Accreditation (COA) reviewed the self-study, the COA *Letter of Instructions*, the *Site Visit Report*, and the program's response to the report as the *Reaffirmation* application for the baccalaureate social work program. *The COA voted to Reaffirm Accreditation for 8 years with a Progress Report to be reviewed by the program's accreditation specialist, ending in October 2025, due to a two-year postponement received this cycle.*

In taking this action, the Commission identified the following areas of concern:

**Accreditation Standard 3.1.5:** *The program submits its written policy indicating that it does not grant social work course credit for life experience or previous work experience. The program documents how it informs applicants and other constituents of this policy.*

The program submitted its written policy indicating that it does not grant social work course credit for life experience or previous work experience in "the field practicum or of courses in the professional foundation areas". However, the program did not submit a policy indicating that it does not grant any social work course credit for a life experience or previous work experience.

The program is asked to submit a written policy indicating that it does not grant any social work course credit for a life experience or previous work experience.

COA *Reaffirmation* decision types are described in [policy 2.6 in the EPAS Handbook](#).





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Western Kentucky University

November 9, 2020

Donde Plowman, PhD  
Chancellor  
University of Tennessee  
[chancellor@utk.edu](mailto:chancellor@utk.edu)

RE: *Accept Progress Report*  
University of Tennessee (TN)  
**Baccalaureate Social Work Program (BSW)**  
*2015 Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS)*

Dear Chancellor Plowman:

At its October 2020 meeting, the Commission on Accreditation (COA) reviewed the progress report for the baccalaureate social work program. **The COA voted to accept the report.**

Congratulations in this achievement.

COA *Reaffirmation* decision types are described in [policy 2.6 in the EPAS Handbook](#). Please be in touch with Marilyn Gentner, Accreditation Specialist in the Department of Social Work Accreditation, if there are any questions about this letter or the procedures and actions of the Commission on Accreditation.

Sincerely,

Deana F. Morrow, PhD, LICSW, ACSW  
Chair, Commission on Accreditation

DFM/ARH

Cc: Robert Mindrup, PsyD, MSSW  
Director of BSSW Programs  
University of Tennessee at Knoxville  
[rmindrup@utk.edu](mailto:rmindrup@utk.edu)



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St. Catherine University & University of  
St. Thomas Collaborative

September 3, 2015

Karen M. Sowers, PhD, MSW  
Dean, College of Social Work  
109 Henson Hall  
University of Tennessee at Knoxville  
1618 Cumberland Avenue  
Knoxville, TN 37996

Dear Dean Sowers:

I am in receipt of your request to postpone the accreditation review for the master's level social work program at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville so that key faculty can attend 2015 Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS) training, collect assessment data, and submit a self-study using the 2015 EPAS. A postponement of one year is approved.

The reaffirmation decision date for the program is now changed from October 2018 until October 2019. If the program is reaffirmed at that time, the next reaffirmation cycle will come in October 2026 in order to keep the program on its correct eight year cycle. A new timetable is attached for your convenience.

Sincerely,

Mary Deffley Kurfess, MSSW  
Accreditation Specialist





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West Chester University

October 30, 2010

Jimmy G. Cheek, Ph.D.  
Chancellor  
University of Tennessee  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-0150

Dear Chancellor Cheek:

At its October 2010 meeting, the Commission on Accreditation (COA) reviewed the *Self-Study*, the COA Letter of Instructions, the *Site Visit Report*, the program's response to the *Report*, and any additional information provided as the reaffirmation application for the baccalaureate and master's social work programs at University of Tennessee. **The COA voted to reaffirm both program's accreditation for eight years, ending October 2018.**

Up to date information regarding reaffirmation, including timetables and fees, is available on the Council on Social Work Education Web site ([www.cswe.org/reaffirmation](http://www.cswe.org/reaffirmation)).

Please be in touch with Dr. RosieLee Camacho Salinas, Accreditation Specialist II, in the Office of Social Work Accreditation, if there are any questions about this letter or the procedures and actions of the Commission of Accreditation.

Sincerely,

James P. Adams, Ph.D.  
Chair, Commission on Accreditation

JPA/RLCS

CC: Karen M. Sowers, M.S.W., Ph.D.  
Dean and Professor  
University of Tennessee  
College of Social Work