

*For immediate release – October 22, 2015*

**CACREP accreditation made available to doctoral programs in rehabilitation counselor education.**

As part of the merger agreement between the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) and the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), doctoral level programs in rehabilitation counselor education (RCE) that prepare faculty to teach in vocational and clinical rehabilitation counseling programs are now being offered an opportunity to seek CACREP accreditation under an expedited process. Previous to this agreement, there was no accreditation review process available for doctoral-level RCE programs, since CORE did not offer accreditation standards for doctoral programs.

CACREP and CORE jointly developed a new time-limited policy allowing doctoral-level RCE programs an opportunity to apply for CACREP accreditation prior to the July 1, 2017 effective date of the merger. Both CORE and CACREP will be involved in the review process, with CORE making the initial determination regarding a program's eligibility. Programs interested in applying for CACREP accreditation will be required to submit a letter of intent to CORE by December 1, 2015, to begin the process.

CORE and CACREP believe it is in the best interest of both the current and future rehabilitation counseling students and faculty, as well as the public served by graduates of these organizations' accredited programs, if doctoral-level RCE programs become accredited as soon as possible, since the 2013 CORE-CACREP Affiliation Agreement extends the grandparenting privileges to serve as core faculty in *all* CACREP programs to new PhD RCE graduates only until January 1, 2018.

Please visit the CORE and CACREP websites at [www.core-rehab.org](http://www.core-rehab.org) and [www.cacrep.org](http://www.cacrep.org) to obtain the most updated information.

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