

Fellowship Review Committee

Overview

The Fellowship Review Committee (FRC) serves as the primary review body for fellowship programs seeking initial or continued accreditation and is responsible for making accreditation decision recommendations to the Commission on Accreditation (COA).

The FRC includes members from diverse social work practice areas and individuals from other professions with fellowship experience. The committee is committed to the following:

- Implementing an accreditation process guided by transparent criteria
- Ensuring fellowship programs meet minimum accreditation requirements
- Fostering continuous improvement and innovation
- Sharing industry knowledge about emerging trends in fellowship practice

Primary Functions

Application Review

FRC members are responsible for reviewing each fellowship program's Application for Accreditation; determining whether a site visit is authorized for the program; preparing reports that summarize the strengths, concerns, and areas of improvement of the program; and making an accreditation decision recommendation to COA. COA considers FRC recommendations and ratifies accreditation decisions.

Site Visit

FRC members are expected to conduct one to two site visits per year. Generally, an FRC member will visit the fellowship program whose Application for Accreditation they have reviewed. CSWE staff members will assist with making travel arrangements and submitting for site visit travel expense reimbursement.

Virtual Meetings

The FRC meets virtually three times a year (January, May, and September) to reconcile accreditation decision recommendations for COA. Additional virtual meetings may be scheduled as needed.

Advisory Role

The FRC works with CSWE staff and the Commission on Accreditation to regularly assess the effectiveness of the accreditation process and to make changes, as needed. The FRC is committed to sharing best practices and to supporting the development and continuous improvement of social work fellowship training.

Length of Term

FRC members are responsible for completing site visit assignments. Depending on the length of the program, an FRC member may review an Application for Recognition in one year and conduct the site visit for that program up to 2 years later.

Appointment

Interested individuals should e-mail smcnally@cswe.org and include a description of their relevant experience (focused area of social work practice experience or experience with other fellowship programs). CSWE staff will appoint FRC members based on relevant practical experience that is matched to the demographics of fellowship programs seeking accreditation.

If appointed, please note: Computer access via high-speed Internet connection is required for communication and workflow. FRC members must be comfortable completing online training modules and working in an e-mail environment including opening, saving, editing, and sending attachments as needed.