



COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

**2015 EPAS
CANDIDACY PROCESS: 3 YEAR BENCHMARK GRID**

To be used by programs submitting the Candidacy Eligibility Application prior to May 31, 2017.

The Benchmark Model chart on the following pages illustrates which features of the 2015 Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS) the program is working on during each commissioner visit.

The **compliance column** lists which accreditation standards the program must be in compliance with during each commissioner visit to move to the next benchmark and commissioner visit. The **draft column**, shaded gray, lists which accreditation standards must be addressed in draft form during the commissioner visit. The commission visitor gives the program feedback on how to improve the draft portion, which later becomes the compliance portion in the next benchmark. For example, the draft standards in Benchmark I are the same as the compliance standards in Benchmark II.

The rows of the chart are divided by the EPAS feature—(1) program mission and goals, (2) explicit curriculum, (3) implicit curriculum, and (4) assessment—and then subdivided by the accreditation standards within the feature. For example, implicit curriculum (the third EPAS feature) is subdivided by AS 3.0 Diversity, AS 3.1 Student Development, AS 3.2 Faculty, AS 3.3 Administrative Structure, and AS 3.4 Resources.

Once COA finds the program in compliance with the accreditation standards in a benchmark, the program is expected to remain in compliance with those standards as it progresses through the rest of the benchmarks. For example, during Benchmark III programs should still be in compliance with the accreditation standards from Benchmarks I and II. The commission visitor will ask the program whether there have been any changes since the last visit and determine whether any of those changes affect the program's compliance.

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	Commissioner Visit I Benchmark I		Commissioner Visit II Benchmark II		Commissioner Visit III Benchmark III
	Compliance	Draft	Compliance	Draft	Compliance
1 – Program Mission and Goals	AS 1.0.1 AS 1.0.2 AS 1.0.3				
2.Explicit Curriculum B 2.0 – Curriculum	AS B2.0.1 AS B2.0.2	AS B2.0.3 Syllabi	AS B2.0.3 Syllabi		
M2.0 – Curriculum	AS M2.0.1 AS M2.0.2	AS M2.0.3 Syllabi	AS M2.0.3 Syllabi		
M2.1 – Specialized Practice		AS M2.1.1 AS M2.1.2 AS M2.1.3 AS M2.1.4	AS M2.1.1 AS M2.1.2 AS M2.1.3 AS M2.1.4		
2.2 – Field Education		AS 2.2.1	AS 2.2.1	AS B2.2.2 AS M2.2.2 AS M2.2.3 AS 2.2.4 AS 2.2.5 AS 2.2.6 AS 2.2.7 AS 2.2.8 AS B2.2.9 AS M2.2.9 AS 2.2.10 AS 2.2.11 Field Manual	AS B2.2.2 AS M2.2.2 AS M2.2.3 AS 2.2.4 AS 2.2.5 AS 2.2.6 AS 2.2.7 AS 2.2.8 AS B2.2.9 AS M2.2.9 AS 2.2.10 AS 2.2.11 Field Manual
3.Implicit Curriculum 3.0 – Diversity				AS 3.0.1 AS 3.0.2 AS 3.0.3	AS 3.0.1 AS 3.0.2 AS 3.0.3
3.1 – Student Development: Admissions		AS B3.1.1 AS M3.1.1 AS 3.1.2 AS M3.1.3 AS 3.1.4 AS 3.1.5	AS B3.1.1 AS M3.1.1 AS 3.1.2 AS M3.1.3 AS 3.1.4 AS 3.1.5		
Advisement, retention, and termination		AS 3.1.6 AS 3.1.7 AS 3.1.8	AS 3.1.6 AS 3.1.7 AS 3.1.8		
Student participation		AS 3.1.9 AS 3.1.10 Student Handbook	AS 3.1.9 AS 3.1.10 Student Handbook		

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CANDIDACY PROCESS: 3 YEAR BENCHMARK GRID (CONTINUED)

	Commissioner Visit I Benchmark I		Commissioner Visit II Benchmark II		Commissioner Visit III Benchmark III
	Compliance	Draft	Compliance	Draft	Compliance
3.2 – Faculty	AS B3.2.4 AS M3.2.4	AS M3.2.4	AS M3.2.4	AS 3.2.1 AS 3.2.2 AS 3.2.3 AS M3.2.4 AS 3.2.5 AS 3.2.6 AS 3.2.7	AS 3.2.1 AS 3.2.2 AS 3.2.3 AS M3.2.4 AS 3.2.5 AS 3.2.6 AS 3.2.7
3.3 – Administrative Structure	AS 3.3.4 AS B3.3.4(a) AS B3.3.4(b) AS B3.3.4(c) AS 3.3.5 AS 3.3.5(a) AS 3.3.5(b) AS B3.3.5(c) AS M3.3.5(c)	AS 3.3.1 AS 3.3.2 AS 3.3.3	AS 3.3.1 AS 3.3.2 AS 3.3.3	AS 3.3.6	AS 3.3.6
3.4 – Resources		AS 3.4.1 AS 3.4.4 AS 3.4.5 AS 3.4.6	AS 3.4.1 AS 3.4.4 AS 3.4.5 AS 3.4.6	AS 3.4.2 AS 3.4.3	AS 3.4.2 AS 3.4.3
4 – Assessment		AS 4.0.1 AS 4.0.5 (plan only)	AS 4.0.1 AS 4.0.5 (plan only)	AS 4.0.2 AS 4.0.3 AS 4.0.4 AS 4.0.5 (complete)	AS 4.0.2 AS 4.0.3 AS 4.0.4 AS 4.0.5 (complete)