



COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

**Commission on Accreditation (COA)**  
**Department of Social Work Accreditation (DOSWA)**  
*Baccalaureate and Master's Social Work Program Accreditation*

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**2022 EPAS CANDIDACY PROCESS: 3-YEAR BENCHMARK GRID**

The *Benchmark Model Grid* on the following pages illustrates which elements of the 2022 Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS) social work education programs submit to achieve each candidacy benchmark.

*Note: This grid is for use by programs seeking candidacy and initial accreditation only.*

The ***Approved to Proceed to the next benchmark columns*** list which accreditation standards must be approved by CSWE's COA to proceed to the next benchmark and commissioner visit. Once CSWE's COA approves the program's responses to the accreditation standards at each benchmark, the program will proceed to the next benchmark.

The ***Draft columns***, shaded gray, lists which accreditation standards the program must submit in draft form for each benchmark. The commission visitor provides feedback on how to improve the program's responses to the draft standards at each benchmark. Draft standards are then reviewed for approval at the next benchmark.

The ***Compliance column*** at Benchmark 3 / Initial Accreditation indicates that all accreditation standards will be evaluated to determine compliance with the EPAS, culminating in a complete Initial Accreditation self-study.

The *Benchmark 1* consists of:

- *Benchmark 1 Review Brief*
- Volume 1: Responses to approval standards, followed by drafts of all remaining standards
- Volume 2: Draft Syllabi
- Volume 3: Draft *Student Handbook* and draft *Field Manual*

The *Benchmark 2* consists of:

- *Benchmark 2 Review Brief*
- Volume 1: Responses to approval standards, followed by draft standards
- Volume 2: Syllabi
- Volume 3: *Student Handbook* and *Field Manual*

The *Benchmark 3 / Initial Accreditation Self-Study* consists of:

- *Initial Accreditation/Reaffirmation Review Brief*
- Volume 1: Responses to all EPAS standards
- Volume 2: Syllabi
- Volume 3: *Student Handbook* and *Field Manual*

**CANDIDACY PROCESS: 3-YEAR BENCHMARK GRID**

<b>2022 EPAS Standard</b>	<b>Commissioner Visit 1 for Benchmark 1</b>		<b>Commissioner Visit 2 for Benchmark 2</b>		<b>Commissioner Visit 3 for Benchmark 3 / Initial Accreditation</b>
	<b>Approved to Proceed to Benchmark 2</b>	<b>Draft</b>	<b>Approved to Proceed to Benchmark 3</b>	<b>Draft</b>	<b>All EPAS Evaluated for Compliance</b>
1 – Program Mission	AS 1.0.1 AS 1.0.2				AS 1.0.1 AS 1.0.2
2 – Anti-racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ADEI)		AS 2.0.1 AS 2.0.2	AS 2.0.1 AS 2.0.2		AS 2.0.1 AS 2.0.2
3 – Explicit Curriculum  3.1 – Generalist Practice	AS 3.1.1	AS 3.1.2 Syllabi	AS 3.1.2 Syllabi		AS 3.1.1 AS 3.1.2 Syllabi
M3.2 – Specialized Practice	AS M3.2.1 AS M3.2.2 AS M3.2.3	AS M3.2.4 Syllabi	AS M3.2.4 Syllabi		AS M3.2.1 AS M3.2.2 AS M3.2.3 AS M3.2.4 Syllabi
3.3 – Field Education		AS 3.3.1 AS M3.3.2 AS 3.3.3 AS 3.3.4 AS 3.3.5 AS B3.3.6 AS M3.3.6 AS 3.3.7 Field Manual	AS 3.3.1 AS M3.3.2 AS 3.3.3 AS 3.3.4 AS 3.3.5 AS B3.3.6 AS M3.3.6 AS 3.3.7 Field Manual		AS 3.3.1 AS M3.3.2 AS 3.3.3 AS 3.3.4 AS 3.3.5 AS B3.3.6 AS M3.3.6 AS 3.3.7 Field Manual
4 – Implicit Curriculum  4.1 – Student Development – Admission	AS 4.1.1 AS B4.1.2 AS M4.1.2 AS M4.1.3 AS 4.1.4 AS 4.1.5				AS 4.1.1 AS B4.1.2 AS M4.1.2 AS M4.1.3 AS 4.1.4 AS 4.1.5
4.1 – Student Development – Advisement, Retention, and Termination		AS 4.1.6 AS 4.1.7	AS 4.1.6 AS 4.1.7		AS 4.1.6 AS 4.1.7
4.1 – Student Development – Student Participation		AS 4.1.8 Student Handbook	AS 4.1.8 Student Handbook		AS 4.1.8 Student Handbook

**CANDIDACY PROCESS: 3-YEAR BENCHMARK GRID (CONTINUED)**

2022 EPAS Standard	Commissioner Visit 1 for Benchmark 1		Commissioner Visit 2 for Benchmark 2		Commissioner Visit 3 for Benchmark 3 / Initial Accreditation
	Approved to Proceed to Benchmark 2	Draft	Approved to Proceed to Benchmark 3	Draft	All EPAS Evaluated for Compliance
4.2 – Faculty	AS B4.2.1 AS M4.2.1 (2 faculty)	AS 4.2.2 AS B4.2.3 AS M4.2.3	AS B4.2.1 AS M4.2.1 (3 faculty)	AS 4.2.2 AS B4.2.3 AS M4.2.3	AS B4.2.1 AS M4.2.1 (4 faculty) AS 4.2.2 AS B4.2.3 AS M4.2.3
4.3 – Administrative and Governance Structure	AS 4.3.4(a) AS B4.3.4(b) AS M4.3.4(b) AS B4.3.4(c) AS M4.3.4(c) AS 4.3.5(a) AS B4.3.5(b) AS M4.3.5(b) AS B4.3.5(c) AS M4.3.5(c)	AS 4.3.1 AS 4.3.2 AS 4.3.3        AS 4.3.6	AS 4.3.4(a) AS B4.3.4(b) AS M4.3.4(b) AS B4.3.4(c) AS M4.3.4(c) AS 4.3.5(a) AS B4.3.5(b) AS M4.3.5(b) AS B4.3.5(c) AS M4.3.5(c)	AS 4.3.1 AS 4.3.2 AS 4.3.3        AS 4.3.6	AS 4.3.1 AS 4.3.2 AS 4.3.3 AS 4.3.4(a) AS B4.3.4(b) AS M4.3.4(b) AS B4.3.4(c) AS M4.3.4(c) AS 4.3.5(a) AS B4.3.5(b) AS M4.3.5(b) AS B4.3.5(c) AS M4.3.5(c) AS 4.3.6
4.4 – Resources	AS 4.4.1  AS 4.4.4 AS 4.4.5	AS 4.4.2 AS 4.4.3	AS 4.4.2 AS 4.4.3		AS 4.4.1 AS 4.4.2 AS 4.4.3 AS 4.4.4 AS 4.4.5
5 – Assessment		AS 5.0.1(a) AS 5.0.1(b) AS 5.0.1(c) (process only) AS 5.0.1(d) AS 5.0.2(a) AS 5.0.2(b) AS 5.0.3	AS 5.0.1(a)  AS 5.0.1(c) (process only)  AS 5.0.2(a)	AS 5.0.1(b) AS 5.0.1(c) (complete) AS 5.0.1(d)  AS 5.0.2(b) AS 5.0.3	AS 5.0.1(a) AS 5.0.1(b) AS 5.0.1(c) (complete) AS 5.0.1(d) AS 5.0.2(a) AS 5.0.2(b) AS 5.0.3