

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN THE COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ACCREDITING BODY**

The Council on Social Work Education (“CSWE”) and the CSWE accrediting body (“AB”) as established in the CSWE bylaws Article 3, Section 5 (collectively the “Parties”), enter into this Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with respect to the delegation of certain authorities.

Whereas CSWE and AB have a shared interest in advancing quality social work education that prepares competent social workers to serve the numerous communities in need, the Parties agree that specifying each entity’s respective scope and roles will assist in ensuring a strong collaborative relationship.

In consideration of the premises set forth above, the parties hereby agree to the relationship between CSWE and the AB, set forth below:

A. Evaluation and Accreditation Services of Social Work Programs

1. The AB has sole authority to define the scope of accreditation evaluation and services for social work programs.
2. The AB has complete autonomy in making the determination if a program is or is not in compliance with the accreditation standards.
3. The AB has sole authority to execute periodic reviews, revisions, and publication of accreditation standards, policies, and procedures including timeline for reviews, execution of review and revision processes, final approval of standards, accreditation policies, procedures, and publication of finalized accreditation materials and decisions.
4. The petitions, reports, and correspondence related to the AB recognition shall be made available to the CSWE President and CEO and the CSWE Board of Directors, provided that the AB is not obligated to provide confidential or program-specific information contained in such materials and that such access does not compromise the autonomy of the accrediting body.
5. The development of new Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS) is a collaborative effort between the AB and the CSWE Commission on Educational Policy (COEP). A joint writing committee comprised of AB and COEP members draft an integrated set of competencies and educational policies to inform the accreditation standards.

The CSWE Board of Directors approves the educational policies and competencies to support continuity between the AB and CSWE vision for social work education.

The AB approves the accreditation standards, and the educational policies and competencies approved by the CSWE Board of Directors, to support alignment across evaluative criteria for accreditation decision-making.

#### B. Indemnification

1. CSWE agrees to hold the AB, its officers and agents, and staff harmless from, and indemnify them, against any and all liability for losses, costs, claims, or damages caused by CSWE, its agents, subcontractors, employees, successors, or assigns in connection with CSWE's performance of this MOA.
2. CSWE shall provide legal representation for the AB, its officers and agents, and staff in the event of adverse legal action in performance of its responsibilities as an accrediting body as set forth in this MOA and in other applicable governing documents of CSWE.
3. The AB members, accreditation volunteers, and CSWE accreditation staff shall ensure equitable and impartial accreditation reviews and procedural due process.
4. Decisions shall be free from conflicts of interest through the implementation of a conflict of interest policy that covers all accrediting organization staff, site visitors, and members of the accrediting body.

#### C. External Recognition

1. The AB shall seek and maintain recognition with the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) and/or the U.S. Department of Education.
2. The determination of where to seek recognition is a collaborative decision between the AB, CSWE Board of Directors, and CSWE leadership (i.e., Executive Director of DOSWA and CSWE President and CEO).

#### D. Accreditation Staff

1. CSWE's Executive Director of Accreditation shall be appointed by the CSWE President and CEO in consultation with the AB Chair and/or the AB Executive Committee.
2. The CSWE Executive Director of Accreditation shall report directly to the CSWE President and CEO within the organizational structure, maintaining the autonomy of accreditation functions as outlined in this document.
3. The Executive Director of Accreditation shall receive an annual performance review conducted by the CSWE President and CEO, which will be informed by the Chair of the AB.

4. All other CSWE accreditation staff shall be appointed by the Executive Director of Accreditation, who shall oversee annual performance reviews of all accreditation staff.
5. Priority of accreditation staff assignments and allocation of time shall be the discretion of the Executive Director of Accreditation.
6. All members of the accreditation staff are considered employees of CSWE and shall be governed by the administrative policies and procedures of CSWE with same benefits and services provided to other employees.
7. In the event the dismissal of the Executive Director of Accreditation should be considered, such a decision requires the CSWE President and CEO consult with the AB Chair and/or the AB Executive Committee regarding job performance of the Executive Director of Accreditation.

E. Financial Operations

1. The Executive Director of Accreditation shall develop the annual accreditation budget in a manner that is faithful to CSWE's procedures.
2. The Executive Director of Accreditation will review the budget annually with the AB.
3. The CSWE President and CEO and the Executive Director of Accreditation shall collaborate in evaluating the sufficiency of accreditation fees and funds for financial, staff, and operational resources to perform and sustain its accreditation functions efficiently and properly. The AB will serve in an advisory role in this process.
4. The CSWE Board of Directors hold fiduciary responsibility for the operations of CSWE and its functions.

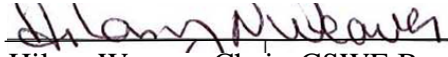
F. General Provisions

1. This agreement shall commence upon the Effective Date, defined as the date of the last signature, and continue until either party terminates the MOA upon thirty (30) days advanced written notice.
2. The agreement shall be governed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the state of Virginia.
3. If any provision of this agreement is determined to be invalid, the remainder of the terms shall be in effect and in full force for the duration of its term.
4. The signers attest that they are duly authorized by their respective bodies by governance policies and procedures to enter into this agreement on behalf of those

bodies.

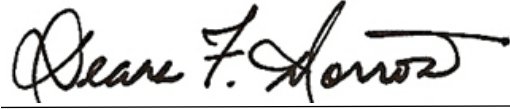
5. The agreement may be subject to change upon the request of either party and upon agreement of both parties.

**Signatures of Authorized Parties**



Hilary Weaver, Chair, CSWE Board of Directors

January 30, 2023




Deana Morrow, Chair, CSWE Accrediting Body

January 30, 2023



Halaevalu F. Ofahengaue Vakalahi, CSWE President and CEO

January 30, 2023



Megan Fujita, CSWE Executive Director of Accreditation

January 30, 2023