

AAFCS Council for Accreditation Statement for AAFCS Accredited Programs Regarding the Updated FCS Body of Knowledge (2025)

The Family and Consumer Sciences Body of Knowledge (FCS-BOK) remains a central framework for the AAFCS accreditation program and serves as the foundation for accreditation standards. Recently, a re-tooled version of the FCS-BOK has been released, and resources to support its use are available online at www.aafcs.org/fcs-bok.

The online resources currently include:

- an updated “Foundational Framework” document with references and symbolism of the model;
- a historical timeline for the Body of Knowledge;
- an article, “*Introduction to the “Re-Tooled” Family and Consumer Sciences Body of Knowledge (FCS-BOK)*” written by members of the Body of Knowledge Task Force and being published in the *Journal of Family and Consumer Sciences*;
- a public statement from Body of Knowledge Task Force; and
- a public statement from the AAFCS Board of Directors.

The Council for Accreditation (CFA) has initiated a process to update accreditation materials to reflect the revised model. Accredited units will be provided a designated transition period to adapt and prepare for integration of the updated framework into their academic and programmatic practices.

While the primary components of the FCS-BOK remain consistent, the updated version includes refinements in language/terminology. These revisions do not alter the overall intent or substance of the framework. Accredited units will not be required to demonstrate evidence of implementation of the re-tooled FCS-BOK until Fall 2027. This timeline provides institutions with adequate opportunity to review the framework, align curricula and outcomes as appropriate, and ensure a smooth transition consistent with accreditation expectations.

The next steps for the FCS Body of Knowledge include the development of additional resources with the help of FCS professionals. This will include instructional materials, presentations, fact sheets, correlations to national standards, integrations of critical science, case study applications, published research, and much more. AAFCS invites contributions from accredited units during the resource development phase to continue our collective work to advance the field and improve professional practice.