

November 2, 2023

Dr. Glenda Baskin Glover, President
Tennessee State University
3500 John A. Merritt Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37209-1561

Dr. Chandra Reddy, Dean and
Director of Research and Extension
College of Agriculture, Human and
Natural Sciences (Box 9641)
218 Agricultural Biotechnology Building
Tennessee State University
3500 John A. Merritt Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37209-1561

Dr. Veronica J. Oates, Chair
Department of Human Sciences
224 Fred Humphries Hall
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3500 John A. Merritt Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37209-1561

Dear Dr. Baskin Glover, Dr. Reddy, and Dr. Oats:

In its November 1, 2023, meeting, the Council for Accreditation of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences voted to grant accreditation to the Department of Human Sciences at Tennessee State University. This action followed careful review and consideration of the Self-Study Report, the report of the site visit team, and the institution's response to the site visit report.

The Council for Accreditation commends the Department of Human Sciences faculty members for providing high quality Family and Consumer Sciences programs in the Department of Human Sciences. The following strengths are particularly noteworthy:

1. University administrators recognize the contribution of the Unit to the institution's educational mission and the leadership of the Interim Chair during the Covid pandemic.
2. Faculty are committed to the program, passionate about student success, and work collaboratively.
3. Students are enthusiastic about their program of study and appreciate the support that Unit faculty members provide them.
4. Students and graduates of the program address needs in the community and workforce.
5. Stakeholders and alumni enthusiastically support the Unit and its programs through internship opportunities and service on the Unit Advisory Board.

6. Elements of the Family and Consumer Sciences Body of Knowledge (FCS-BOK) are infused in core courses at a sufficient level to provide all students with an understanding of the core concepts, integrative elements, and cross-cutting themes; and course components relate to several elements of the Body of Knowledge, reinforcing the holistic integrative nature of Family and Consumer Sciences.

The Council for Accreditation makes the following recommendations to strengthen compliance with accreditation standards and to assist in further enhancement of the Family and Consumer Sciences Program in the Department of Human Sciences:

1. Develop a Unit strategic plan that aligns with the college and university strategic plans. [Criterion 1.1(2)]
2. Clearly articulate Unit goals and objectives with targets and benchmarks; indicate progress toward meeting the targets. Make the goals broader than the student learning objectives, and carefully consider continuing/combining/eliminating concentrations with low enrollment. [Criteria 1.2(1,2)]
3. Develop a plan with benchmarks and target dates for renovating the Humphries Building to attract high performing students and increase enrollment. [Criterion 1.5(4)]
4. Empower the Unit administrator to make decisions regarding program development, personnel, and fiscal matters and identify the level of decision-making throughout the administrative chain. [Criterion 1.4(1)b]
5. Ensure that the Chair has sufficient time to accomplish the administrative functions of the Unit. [Criterion 1.4(2)]
6. Update annually the public reporting of reliable aggregated student performance data and outcome measures and ensure that the data are no more than two clicks from the Unit homepage. [Criterion 2.2(3)]
7. Ensure all faculty members have the appropriate credentials for assigned responsibilities. [Criterion 4.1(1)]
8. Work closely with Enrollment Management and Student Success to market and enhance visibility of the Unit to increase student enrollment and diversity. [Criteria 4.3(1,8)]
9. Evaluate and assess current job market demands for curriculum alignment for low enrollment programs. Review names for low-enrolled programs to enhance student appeal. Continue to review and implement options for combining programs with similar curricula. [Criterion 4.3(1)]

Actions taken in response to these recommendations are to be described in the Unit's first interim report which shall be submitted in year three (2027) of accreditation. You will receive notification of the specific date the report will be due for consideration in the Council for Accreditation's subsequent meeting.

Accreditation is granted by the Council for Accreditation for a period of ten years. Any extension and/or provisional accreditation periods are counted as part of the ten-year period. Therefore, this accreditation expires Fall 2033. The next Self-Study Report will be due September 1, 2032.

When accreditation is granted, the Unit is eligible to use the AAFCS Seal of Accreditation. This seal indicates that the Unit has been found to meet or exceed stated criteria and can be used in all communications, both print and electronic. You will be sent an electronic file containing the seal graphic with protocol-for-use.

Members of the Council for Accreditation join us in congratulating you and the faculty on the quality of programs offered by the Department of Human Sciences at Tennessee State University. This comes with our good wishes for continued success.

With Best Wishes,

Barbara L Stewart

Barbara Stewart, Ed.D. CFCS
Chair, Council for Accreditation

Lori A. Myers

Lori Myers, Ph.D. CFCS
Sr. Director: Credentialing,
Education & Research