NCATE
Addendum Exhibit 4.4.3 – CACREP Fieldwork Requirements

SECTION III

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Professional practice, which includes practicum and internship, provides for the application of theory and the development of counseling skills under supervision. These experiences will provide opportunities for students to counsel clients who represent the ethnic and demographic diversity of their community.

SUPERVISOR QUALIFICATIONS AND SUPPORT

A. Program faculty members serving as individual or group practicum/internship supervisors must have the following:

1. A doctoral degree and/or appropriate counseling preparation, preferably from a CACREP-accredited counselor education program.
2. Relevant experience and appropriate credentials/licensure and/or demonstrated competence in counseling.
3. Relevant supervision training and experience.

B. Students serving as individual or group practicum student supervisors must meet the following requirements:

1. Have completed a master’s degree, as well as counseling practicum and internship experiences equivalent to those in a CACREP-accredited entry-level program.
2. Have completed or are receiving preparation in counseling supervision.
3. Be supervised by program faculty, with a faculty-student ratio that does not exceed 1:6.

C. Site supervisors must have the following qualifications:

1. A minimum of a master’s degree in counseling or a related profession with equivalent qualifications, including appropriate certifications and/or licenses.
2. A minimum of two years of pertinent professional experience in the program area in which the student is enrolled.
3. Knowledge of the program’s expectations, requirements, and evaluation procedures for students.
4. Relevant training in counseling supervision.

D. Orientation, assistance, consultation, and professional development opportunities are provided by counseling program faculty to site supervisors.
E. Supervision contracts for each student are developed to define the roles and responsibilities of the faculty supervisor, site supervisor, and student during practicum and internship.

PRACTICUM

F. Students must complete supervised practicum experiences that total a minimum of 100 clock hours over a minimum 10-week academic term. Each student’s practicum includes all of the following:

1. At least 40 clock hours of direct service with actual clients that contributes to the development of counseling skills.
2. Weekly interaction that averages one hour per week of individual and/or triadic supervision throughout the practicum by a program faculty member, a student supervisor, or a site supervisor who is working in biweekly consultation with a program faculty member in accordance with the supervision contract.
3. An average of 1 1/2 hours per week of group supervision that is provided on a regular schedule throughout the practicum by a program faculty member or a student supervisor.
4. The development of program-appropriate audio/video recordings for use in supervision or live supervision of the student’s interactions with clients.
5. Evaluation of the student’s counseling performance throughout the practicum, including documentation of a formal evaluation after the student completes the practicum.

INTERNSHIP

F. The program requires completion of a supervised internship in the student’s designated program area of 600 clock hours, begun after successful completion of the practicum. The internship is intended to reflect the comprehensive work experience of a professional counselor appropriate to the designated program area. Each student’s internship includes all of the following:

1. At least 240 clock hours of direct service, including experience leading groups.
2. Weekly interaction that averages one hour per week of individual and/or triadic supervision throughout the internship, usually performed by the onsite supervisor.
3. An average of 1 1/2 hours per week of group supervision provided on a regular schedule throughout the internship and performed by a program faculty member.
4. The opportunity for the student to become familiar with a variety of professional activities and resources in addition to direct service (e.g., record keeping, assessment instruments, supervision, information and referral, in-service and staff meetings).
5. The opportunity for the student to develop program-appropriate audio/video recordings for use in supervision or to receive live supervision of his or her interactions with clients.
6. Evaluation of the student’s counseling performance throughout the internship, including documentation of a formal evaluation after the student completes the internship by a program faculty member in consultation with the site supervisor.