



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS**

New Site Request

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|---|---|
| UNIVERSITY: | SDSU |
| DEGREE(S) AND PROGRAM: | Counseling and Human Resource Development (M.S.) – Marriage and Family Counseling Specialization |
| NEW SITE(S): | Online |
| INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION: | Fall 2024 |

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The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 14% employment growth rate of marriage and family therapists by 2031 in the US. This is well above the 5% average growth rate for all professions.¹ The CHRD program has received an increasing number of student requests for online delivery options to meet their needs for advanced degree completion while also working, meeting family demand at various campus locations.

Pathway to Premier 2030 strategic plan² has identified numerous goals and strategies that support delivery of an online degree in Counseling and Human Resource Development. This includes **Achieve Excellence through Transformative Education:**

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3. Are students enrolling in the program expected to be new to the university or redirected from other existing programs at the university? Complete the table below and explain the methodology used in developing the estimates.

SDSU Marriage and Family Counseling Specialization over the last 3 years has added 2-3 new students each year and the majority have requested online courses if available. The number will gradually increase with an available online delivery format. The program plans to evaluate the feasibility and viability of continuing with face-to-face courses for the Marriage and Family Counseling Specialization in AY 2025-2026, pending approval of an online program starting in AY 2024-2025.

| | Fiscal Years* | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd | 4 th |
| <i>Estimates</i> | FY25 | FY26 | FY27 | FY28 |

Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP)⁹ but is scheduled for an accreditation review with the other already accredited counseling programs in AY 2023-2024. If online program delivery is approved by the SDBOR, a digital delivery substantive change template will be completed and submitted to CACREP for approval to offer the Marriage & Family Counseling Specialization as a CACREP accredited online program. As noted on the substantive change template, institutional approval of program delivery is requested prior to completing the substantive change with CACREP. The substantive change request is a comprehensive review process designed to assure high program quality

¹⁰ The CHRD program is well positioned to meet online delivery needs of students with the same attention to student outcomes and quality as classes offered on campus. Current classrooms are outfitted with state-of-the-art technology to support online learning in a variety of online formats. An increased investment in pedagogical strategies for effective online learning occurred during COVID with an increasing number of current CHRD courses remaining online to meet the needs of a diverse student body. The CHRD program plans to seek additional professional development for faculty in offering courses in a hyflex and/or online format.

8. Does the university request any exceptions to Board policy for delivery at the new site(s)? Explain requests for exceptions to Board policy.

None

9. Cost, Budget, and Resources related to new courses at the site: Explain the amount and source(s) of any one-time and continuing investments in personnel, professional development, release time, time redirected from other assignments, instructional technology & software, other operations and maintenance, facilities, etc., needed to implement the proposed minor. Complete Appendix B Budget using the system form.

No new courses are planned, and current faculty will continue to be utilized to provide instruction in an online format. Faculty are currently utilized to provide