The Rehabilitation Counseling Program at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania is fully accredited by the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) through 2016 (refer to www.core-rehab.org). Applicant interviews are conducted during the fall semester and spring semester. Students are able to begin their course work in the summer, fall, or spring. Graduates of the 60-credit program meet the educational requirements for counselor licensure in Pennsylvania (i.e., the Licensed Professional Counselor [LPC] credential). Student outcomes are evaluated on a variety of measures that are part of the overall program evaluation (for example, the Rehabilitation Counseling Program Annual Student Program Evaluation, the Alumni Survey – conducted every 3 years, and the Employer Survey – completed every 3 years).

As of the 2014-2015 academic year, the Rehabilitation Counseling program had a total of 11 actively enrolled students (9 full-time and 2 part-time). Sixty-four percent (64%) of the students are from underrepresented groups, including people with disabilities. The program has five full-time, tenure-track faculty members who teach in the CORE-accredited curriculum.

In the calendar years 2012, 2013, and 2014, a total of 20 students graduated from the Rehabilitation Counseling Program. All of the students (100%) satisfactorily completed their fieldwork experiences (i.e., practicum and internship). Paid internship experiences through the Pennsylvania (PA) Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) are available for student interns in the final semester of the graduate program and can lead to full-time employment. Between 2010 and 2014, 28% of the students completed paid internships as part of PA’s Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor Intern Program and their positions converted to Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC) positions following the probationary period. During that same period of time, 20.5% of the program graduates (who did not complete paid internships with OVR) were offered and accepted positions with OVR (either the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation Services or Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services), and 5% of the program graduates were already-employed VRCs who returned to school to complete their graduate degrees.

During the 2013-2014 academic year, 25% of the program graduates were hired in state vocational rehabilitation settings, 12.5% were hired by a Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and 12.5% were hired substance abuse treatment program, 12.5% were hired by a youth services program, 12.5% were hired by a women’s services program serving survivors of domestic and sexual abuse, and 25% were hired by other social service agencies.

Between 2010 and 2014, every program graduate who took the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) exam passed (n=24) (refer to: www.crccertification.com). The CRC
exam is among the qualifying exams accepted by the State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors to become an LPC in Pennsylvania.

Each year, an eligible student is selected as the recipient of the Dr. Jean Bloom Rehabilitation Counseling Program Scholarship. The recipient must be a graduate student enrolled in the Rehabilitation Counseling Program who demonstrates a sincere interest in pursuing a career as a rehabilitation counselor. The scholarship has been awarded annually since 2005, with a total of $5,500 awarded to recipients between 2005 and 2014.

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