



AMES IN ACTION

JULY 2023



PROVIDING MILITARY EXPERTISE TO ENHANCE SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION



WHAT DID AMES DO?

Dr. Bianca Channer, Clinical Manager for the AMES Research Center, was recently invited to be a part of the Military Task Force within the Council on Social Work Education. The Military Task Force will update the Specialized Practice Curricular Guide for Military Social Work to align with the 2022 Social Work Competencies and Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards. Dr. Channer has developed expertise in applying the principles of social work to military-relevant populations through her work with the AMES Research Center.

HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO MILITARY, VETERANS, AND EMERGENCY SERVICES?

The update of the Specialized Practice Curricular Guide for Military Social Work will ensure that social work students are prepared to work with military-relevant populations, such as service members, veterans, or family members. This update will ensure that students complete in-class exercises, assignments, and internships that help build military-relevant cultural competence. Social work services, such as therapy, provided by a clinician who has developed their cultural competence tends to promote better outcomes.

HOW CAN YOU APPLY THIS INFORMATION?



**ASK YOUR PROFESSIONAL
ABOUT THEIR TRAINING**



**CONSULT THE
UPDATED STANDARDS**

If you are a service member, veteran, or family member seeking mental health services, remember that it is okay to ask a professional about their training and credentials. When learning more about a professional, ask them how they continually develop their cultural competence to work with military populations.

Particularly if you are an educator or internship supervisor, make sure to consult the updated Specialized Practice Curricular Guide when it is released by the Council on Social Work Education. Integrate the principles, activities, and assignments into educational opportunities whenever possible.