

## ACCREDITING BUREAU OF HEALTH EDUCATION SCHOOLS | ABHES

7777 Leesburg Pike, Suite 314 N. · Falls Church, Virginia 22043 Tel. 703/917.9503 · Fax 703/917.4109 · E-Mail: info@abhes.org

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The Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES), an accrediting organization for institutions and programs that graduate allied health care professionals for practice in communities throughout the United States, announced today that it has issued its first Diversity and Inclusion Statement.

"ABHES is deeply dedicated to diversity, equity, and inclusion in all of its endeavors, and this statement reflects that dedication," said India Tips, Executive Director of ABHES. "This statement will serve as a guidepost for our organization moving forward." The Commission approved the statement, which emphasizes ABHES' philosophy that diversity, equity, and inclusion serve to enhance the quality of education provided by its accredited institutions and programs, at the Commission's July 2021 meeting.

"Diversity and inclusion are central to our mission and the missions of our accredited institutions and programs. We understood that it was time for ABHES to put its commitment down on paper, and we are proud to have done so," said Thomas Kenny, ABHES Commission Chair, and Chief Compliance Officer, Northwest Career College. "Our agency welcomes the diverse experiences and contributions of all of our communities of interest, and we want our organization, as well as its standards and processes, to incorporate and reflect the widest possible variety of perspectives."

ABHES's Diversity and Inclusion Statement demonstrates the agency's belief that a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion is essential to a well-educated healthcare workforce. ABHES is also committed to continuing to evaluate its own governance, standards and operations, as well as those of its accredited institutions and programs, to ensure that its commitment to diversity and inclusion continues to manifest itself in all of the organization's work and decisions.

A copy of ABHES's Diversity and Inclusion Statement can be found here: <a href="https://abhes.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/ABHES-DEI-Statement.pdf">https://abhes.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/ABHES-DEI-Statement.pdf</a>. For questions, please contact the ABHES office at info@abhes.org or (703) 917-9503.