

CHEA Institute for Research
and Study of Accreditation
and Quality Assurance

**The Condition of
Accreditation**
U.S. Accreditation in 2007

®
CHEA

December 2008

The information presented here was provided by accrediting organizations during the 2006-2007 academic year and is also contained in the CHEA *Almanac of External Quality Review 2007*.

A national advocate and institutional voice for self-regulation of academic quality through accreditation, CHEA is an association of 3,000 degree-granting colleges and universities and recognizes 60 institutional and programmatic accrediting organizations.

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Council for Higher Education Accreditation

One Dupont Circle NW • Suite 510

Washington DC 20036-1135

tel: 202-955-6126

fax: 202-955-6129

e-mail: chea@chea.org

www.chea.org

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I. Accredited Institutions

Institutions are accredited by three types of accreditors: national faith-related organizations that accredit religiously affiliated and doctrinally based institutions that are primarily degree-granting and nonprofit; national career-related organizations that accredit mainly for-profit career-based degree-granting and non-degree-granting institutions; and regional organizations that accredit mainly nonprofit, degree-granting institutions. Nineteen (19) recognized institutional accrediting organizations accredited 7,006 institutions in 2006-2007.

Figure 1-1
Total Number of Institutions Accredited by Recognized Accrediting Organizations

Regional	3,025
National Faith-Related	449
National Career-Related	3,532
TOTAL	7,006

Figure 1-2
Number of Institutions Accredited by National Faith-Related Accrediting Organizations (449)

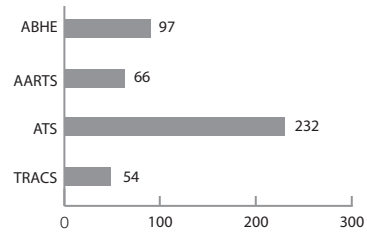
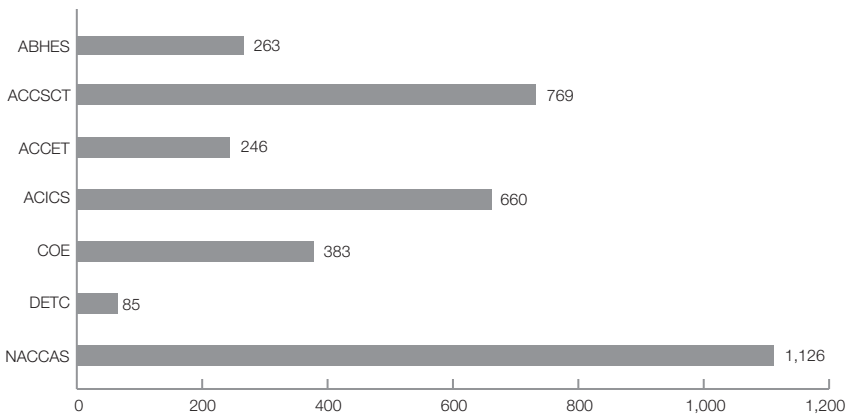


Figure 1-3
Number of Institutions Accredited by National Career-Related Accrediting Organizations (3,532)



I. Accredited Institutions

Figure 1-4

Number of Institutions Accredited by Regional Accrediting Organizations (3,025)

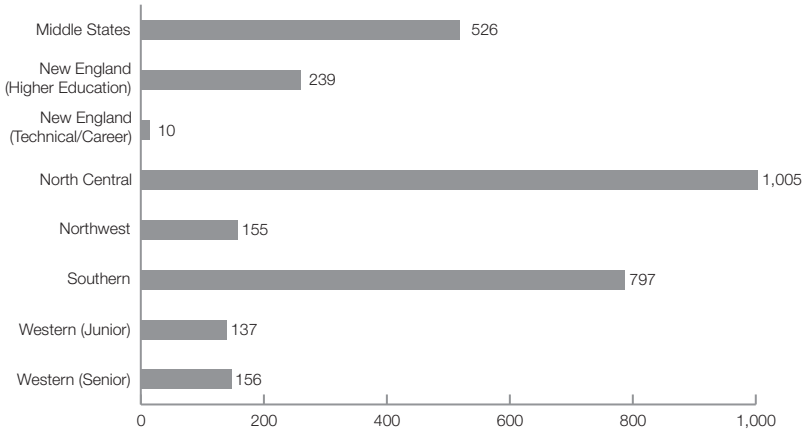
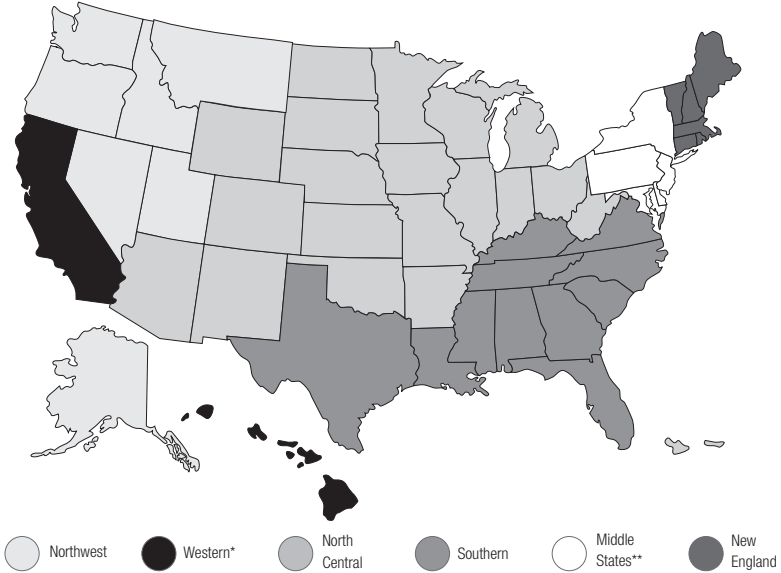


Figure 1-5

Regional Accrediting Organizations



*Includes American Samoa, Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Republic of Palau, Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

**Includes Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Figure 1-6

Institutional Accreditation by Institutional Control, Degree- or Non-Degree-Granting Status

Institutional accrediting organizations accredit more degree-granting institutions (4,488) than non-degree-granting (2,518) and more nonprofit institutions (3,745) than for-profit (3,261).

		Public	Private Nonprofit	Private For-Profit	Total Institutions
Regional	<i>Degree</i>	1,543	1,387	88	3,018
	<i>Non-Degree</i>	0	3	4	7
	Regional Total	1,543	1,390	92	3,025
National Faith-Related	<i>Degree</i>	0	445	2	447
	<i>Non-Degree</i>	0	2	0	2
	National Faith-Related Total	0	447	2	449
National Career-Related	<i>Degree</i>	114	64	845	1,023
	<i>Non-Degree</i>	96	91	2,322	2,509
	National Career-Related Total	210	155	3,167	3,532
Total Institutions	<i>Degree</i>	1,657	1,896	935	4,488
	<i>Non-Degree</i>	96	96	2,326	2,518
	Grand Totals	1,753	1,992	3,261	7,006

II. Students in Accredited Institutions

More than 21,400,000 students were enrolled in accredited institutions in 2006-2007. Regionally accredited institutions are home to more than 18,400,000 of these enrollees.

Figure 2-1

Total Number of Students Enrolled in Institutions Accredited by Recognized Accrediting Organizations

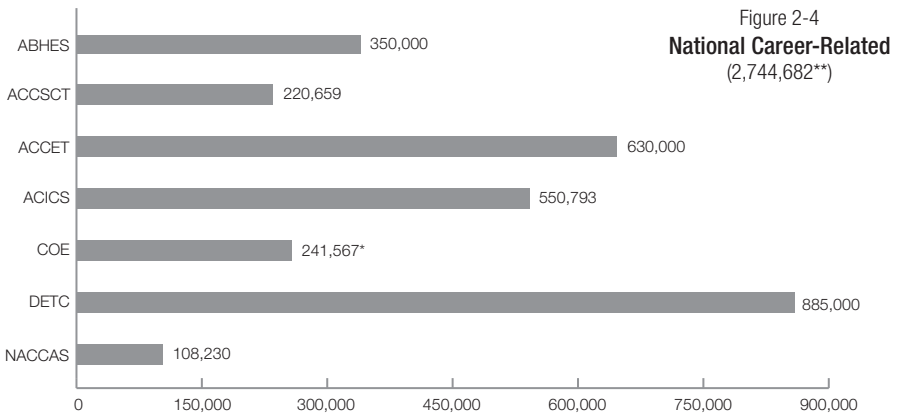
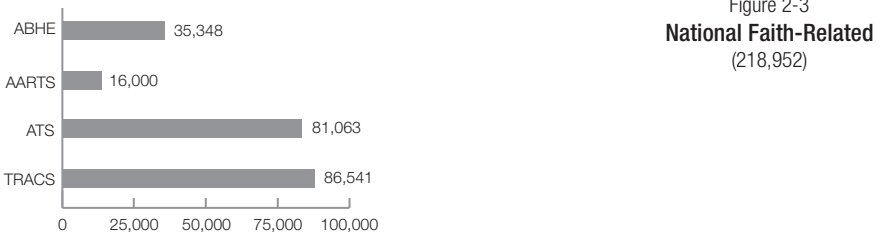
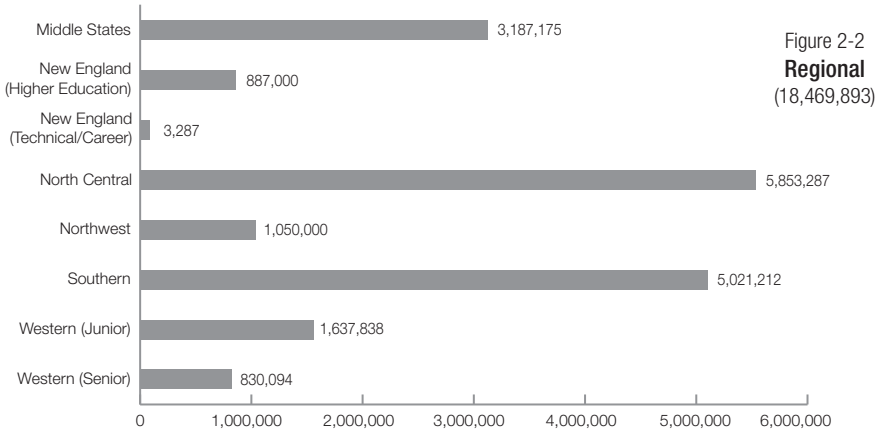
Regional	18,469,893
National Faith-Related	218,952
National Career-Related	2,744,682*
TOTAL	21,433,527*

*Council on Occupational Education enrollments not included.

II. Students in Accredited Institutions

Figures 2-2, 2-3, 2-4

Number of Students Enrolled in Institutions Accredited by Regional, National Faith-Related and National Career-Related Accrediting Organizations in 2006-2007



*COE reports full-time equivalent enrollment.

**COE enrollment not included.

III. Accredited Programs

Figure 3-1

Programmatic Accreditation by Degree- or Non-Degree-Granting Status, 2006-2007

	Public	Private Nonprofit	Private For-Profit	Institutional Control Not Indicated	Total*
<i>Degree</i>	6,278	2,484	426	5,962	15,150
<i>Non-Degree</i>	1,397	798	560	598	3,353
<i>Total*</i>	7,675	3,282	986	6,560	18,503*

Figure 3-2

Programmatic Accreditation

The 61 recognized programmatic accrediting organizations accredit programs or free-standing institutions that enrolled more than 2.8 million students in 2006-2007. This figure indicates the date founded, number of schools or programs and number of students enrolled.

ACCREDITOR	Date Founded	Number of Schools or Programs	Number of Students
AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business	1916	555	700,000
Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc.	1932	2,880	Not Available
Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine	1982	72	8,073
Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education	1955	39	1,136
Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education	1932	106	50,691
Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc.	1971	139	13,000
Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications	1945	110	85,000
American Academy for Liberal Education	1992	21	45,000
American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education	1946	107	2,800
American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Council for Accreditation	1909	53	Not Available
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs	1975	106	4,500
American Bar Association Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar	1893	198	150,031
American Board of Funeral Service Education Committee on Accreditation	1958	58	8,000

*Three accrediting organizations not reporting programs and freestanding institutions; four organizations not reporting degree-granting/non-degree-granting status. Six organizations reported institutional degree-granting status only.

III. Accredited Programs

Figure 3-2 (continued)

Programmatic Accreditation

ACCREDITOR	Date Founded	Number of Schools or Programs	Number of Students
American Council for Construction Education	1974	72	15,000
American Culinary Federation Foundation, Inc.	1929	330	28,000
American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation	1975	1,356	52,435
American Dietetic Association Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education	1917	585	18,000
American Library Association Committee on Accreditation	1924	62	19,751
American Occupational Therapy Association Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education	1923	273	15,550
American Optometric Association Accreditation Council on Optometric Education	1934	24	5,300
American Osteopathic Association Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation	1897	25	14,409
American Physical Therapy Association Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education	1928	444	28,000
American Podiatric Medical Association Council on Podiatric Medical Education	1918	8	2,095
American Psychological Association Commission on Accreditation	1948	377	25,973
American Society for Microbiology American College of Microbiology	1899	12	12
American Society of Landscape Architects Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board	1899	80	6,800
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology	1925	317	16,000
American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education	1863	40	11,100
Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc., Accreditation Commission	1967	293	6,808
Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs	1988	423	Not Available
Aviation Accreditation Board International	1988	80	12,567
Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs	1994	2,143	95,000
Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education	1968	72	5,200
Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education	1996	796	193,600
Commission on English Language Program Accreditation	1999	56	207,000
Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation	1996	68	9,000
Commission on Opticianry Accreditation	1985	22	600
Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs	1981	513	27,984
Council for Interior Design Accreditation	1970	162	30,000
Council on Chiropractic Education Commission on Accreditation	1971	15	10,000
Council on Education for Public Health	1974	109	20,000
Council on Naturopathic Medical Education	1978	7	1,800

Figure 3-2 (continued)

Programmatic Accreditation

ACCREDITOR	Date Founded	Number of Schools or Programs	Number of Students
Council on Rehabilitation Education Commission on Standards and Accreditation	1972	101	4,240
Council on Social Work Education Commission on Accreditation	1952	645	71,846
Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology	1970	99	1,900
Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology	1971	710	36,000
Liaison Committee on Medical Education	1942	142	75,275
Midwifery Education Accreditation Council	1991	10	393
Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education	1991	105	2,860
National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences	1973	539	5,310
National Architectural Accrediting Board, Inc.	1940	140	43,310
National Association of Industrial Technology	1967	315	Not Available
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health Council on Accreditation	1980	1	12
National Association of Schools of Art and Design Commission on Accreditation	1944	276	166,246
National Association of Schools of Dance Commission on Accreditation	1981	64	5,943
National Association of Schools of Music Commission on Accreditation and Commission on Community/Junior College Accreditation	1924	617	110,778
National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation	1970	161	31,000
National Association of Schools of Theatre Commission on Accreditation	1969	155	23,250
National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education	1954	642	320,000
National Environmental Health Science and Protection Accreditation Council	1967	37	1,386
National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, Inc.	1997	1,181	Not Available
National Recreation and Park Association/Council on Accreditation	1965	89	10,000
Planning Accreditation Board	1984	71	6,623
Society of American Foresters	1900	54	4,500
Teacher Education Accreditation Council	1997	58	4,450
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Commission on Certification and Accreditation	1982	33	1,500
PROGRAMMATIC TOTALS	---	19,453	2,873,037

IV. Characteristics of Accrediting Organizations

Accrediting organizations employed almost 750 full- and part-time staff in 2006-2007 and reported operating budgets that totaled approximately \$92,000,000. They worked with more than 18,000 volunteers who served on accreditation teams, commissions and task forces.

Figure 4-1
Number of Paid Employees and Accrediting Unit Operating Budget in 2006-2007

	Full-time Employees	Part-time Employees	2006-07 Operating Budget
Regional Accrediting Organizations	129	13	\$21,523,636
National Faith-Related Accrediting Organizations	19	10	\$2,076,779
National Career-Related Accrediting Organizations	134	6	\$19,496,475
Programmatic Accrediting Organizations	372	63.2	\$49,154,098
<i>Totals</i>	654	92.2	\$92,250,988

Figure 4-2
Number of Volunteers and Volunteer Financial Support in 2006-2007

Accrediting organizations rely on volunteers in the higher education community and the public to carry out the important function of peer review. In general, these volunteers are unpaid (other than reimbursement of expenses) and serve on visiting teams, accreditation decision-making bodies and other task forces or committees of accrediting organizations.

	Total Volunteers Available	2006-07 Volunteers	2006-07 Volunteer Financial Support
Regional Accrediting Organizations	19,720	3,580	\$5,530,816
National Faith-Related Accrediting Organizations	1,094	371	\$189,380
National Career-Related Accrediting Organizations	4,524	2,382	\$4,818,556
Programmatic Accrediting Organizations	25,907	11,934	\$7,756,790
<i>Totals</i>	51,245	18,267	\$18,295,542

Figure 4-3

Formal Actions Taken by Accrediting Organizations, 2006-2007

Accrediting organizations take a range of formal actions when reviewing an institution or program for initial or continuing accreditation. This chart indicates the types and frequency of actions reported by accrediting organizations arrayed by type of organization. Accrediting organizations do not use a common set of definitions for these actions. Please contact individual accreditors for additional information about use of these terms.

Accreditation Action	Regional	National Faith-Related	National Career-Related	Programmatic*	Totals
Initial Candidacy or Pre-accreditation granted	23	7	97	195	322
Initial Candidacy or Pre-accreditation denied	2	0	2	28	32
Initial Accreditation granted	31	14	233	597	875
Initial Accreditation denied	1	1	14	30	46
Accreditation continued following comprehensive review	120	35	458	1,768	2,381
Accreditation continued following comprehensive review with required follow-up	214	15	311	910	1,450
Notice or Warning	33	9	22	31	95
Probation	20	1	56	89	166
Show Cause	7	1	115	20	143
Accreditation Terminated or Removed	4	2	68	44	118
Actions Under Appeal	0	0	27	10	37
Other**	128	4	420	243	795
Totals	583	89	1,823	3,965	6,460

*Three programmatic accrediting organizations not reporting.

**Some accrediting organizations reported additional types of actions. Examples include substantive changes, voluntary withdrawal, special purpose visits, program closure.

V. International Accreditation Activity

Figure 5-1

Number and Location of Non-U.S. Institutions and Programs Operating Outside the United States and Accredited by Recognized U.S. Accrediting Organizations (as of December 2007)*

Forty-one (41) accrediting organizations were active in 52 countries outside the United States in 2006-2007, accrediting 385 non-U.S. operations.

Regional Accrediting Organizations	Number of Institutions or Programs	Countries
Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools Middle States Commission on Higher Education	8	Canada, Chile, China, France, Greece, Hong Kong, Italy, Lebanon, Malaysia, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, The Netherlands, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom
New England Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Institutions of Higher Education	6	Bulgaria, Greece, Switzerland
New England Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Technical and Career Institutions	5	Spain, Sweden, Switzerland
Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities	1	Canada
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges	6	Costa Rica, Mexico, United Arab Emirates
<i>Regional Accrediting Organizations Total</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>20 countries*</i>
National Faith-Related Accrediting Organizations		
		Countries
Association for Biblical Higher Education	17	Canada
Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada	36	Bahrain, Belgium, Bermuda, Bulgaria, China, France, Germany, Greece, India, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Mexico, Poland, Russian Federation, Senegal, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, United Kingdom
Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools Accrediting Commission	1	Taiwan
<i>National Faith-Related Accrediting Organizations Total</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>23 countries</i>
National Career-Related Accrediting Organizations		
		Countries
Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training	4	Saudi Arabia, Venezuela
Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools	3	Cayman Islands, Ireland, Mexico
Council on Occupational Education	5	Canada
Distance Education and Training Council Accrediting Commission	10	Australia, Canada, Japan, South Africa, United Kingdom
<i>National Career-Related Accrediting Organizations Total</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>10 countries</i>
<i>All Institutional Accrediting Organizations Totals</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>38 countries</i>

*Includes institutions and programs in Guam and U.S. Virgin Islands.

Figure 5-1 (continued)

Programmatic Accrediting Organizations	Number of Institutions or Programs	Countries
AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business	96	Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Egypt, France, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Kuwait, Mexico, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, The Netherlands, The Philippines, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Venezuela
Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc.	2	Egypt
Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education	1	Lebanon
Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications	1	Chile
American Academy for Liberal Education	7	Republic of Georgia
American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education	6	Canada
American Council for Construction Education	2	Australia, Canada
American Culinary Federation Foundation, Inc. Accrediting Commission	1	The Philippines
American Dietetic Association Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education	1	Mexico
American Library Association Committee on Accreditation	7	Canada
American Optometric Association Accreditation Council on Optometric Education	2	Canada
American Physical Therapy Association Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education	4	Scotland, Canada
American Psychological Association Committee on Accreditation	34	Canada
American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education	12	Australia, Canada, New Zealand, The Netherlands, United Kingdom
Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs	30	Argentina, Canada, Colombia, France, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, The Netherlands, United Arab Emirates
Aviation Accreditation Board International	2	Canada, South Korea
Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs	1	Canada
Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education	3	Canada
Commission on English Language Program Accreditation	6	Greece, Kuwait, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela
Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation	4	Canada, Trinidad and Tobago

V. International Accreditation Activity

Figure 5-1 (continued)

Programmatic Accrediting Organizations	Number of Institutions or Programs	Countries
Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs	1	Canada
Council for Interior Design Accreditation	10	Canada
Council on Education for Public Health	3	Canada, Lebanon, Mexico
Council on Naturopathic Medical Education	2	Canada
Liaison Committee on Medical Education	17	Canada
Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education	19	Canada, Dominican Republic, Ireland, Israel, Mexico, South Africa, South Korea, Taiwan, United Kingdom
National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences	4	Qatar
National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, Inc.	2	Scotland
Planning Accreditation Board	3	Canada
<i>Programmatic Accrediting Organizations Total</i>	283	38 countries
<i>Grand Total</i>	385	52 countries

Figure 5-2

Number and Location of U.S. Institutions and Programs Operating Outside the United States and Accredited by Recognized U.S. Accrediting Organizations (as of December 2007)*

Fifteen (15) accrediting organizations were active in 90 countries outside the United States in 2006-2007, accrediting 329 U.S. operations.

Regional Accrediting Organizations	Number of Institutions or Programs	Countries
Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools Middle States Commission on Higher Education	74	Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kosovo, Kuwait, Morocco, Norway, Panama, Portugal, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, St. Lucia, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, The Netherlands, The Philippines, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Yugoslavia
New England Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Institutions of Higher Education	19	Bahrain, Belgium, Bermuda, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Italy, Jamaica, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mexico, Nicaragua, Poland, Russian Federation, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela
North Central Association of Colleges and Schools The Higher Learning Commission	102	Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Greenland, Guatemala, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Moldova, Myanmar, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, The Netherlands, The Philippines, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges	70	Costa Rica, Mexico
Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities	64	Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, El Salvador, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Peru, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand
Regional Accrediting Organizations Total	329	87 countries

*Includes institutions and programs in Guam, Northern Mariana Islands and the U.S. Pacific Islands.

V. International Accreditation Activity

Figure 5-2 (continued)

National Faith-Related Accrediting Organizations	Number of Institutions or Programs	Countries
Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools Accreditation Commission	8	Federated States of Micronesia, Mexico, Republic of Palau, Romania, South Korea, Spain
<i>National Faith-Related Accrediting Organizations Total</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>6 countries</i>
National Career-Related Accrediting Organizations		
		Countries
Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools	11	Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom
Council on Occupational Education	1	Bahamas
<i>National Career-Related Accrediting Organizations Total</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>10 countries</i>
<i>Institutional Subtotals</i>	<i>349</i>	<i>89 countries</i>
Programmatic Accrediting Organizations		
		Countries
American Academy for Liberal Education	1	Nicaragua
American Culinary Federation Foundation, Inc. Accrediting Commission	1	Switzerland
American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation	2	Canada
Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs	4	Germany, Greece, India, Poland, Thailand, Vietnam
Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education	3	Argentina, Taiwan, Thailand
Council for Interior Design Accreditation	2	Canada, Qatar
Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education	2	China, Taiwan
<i>Programmatic Accrediting Organizations Total</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>13 countries</i>
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>364</i>	<i>90 countries</i>

Figure 5-3

Summary: Number of U.S. and Non-U.S. Institutions and Programs Operating Outside the United States and Accredited by Recognized U.S. Accrediting Organizations (as of December 2007)

Accrediting Organizations	Institutions and Programs Accredited		
	U.S.	Non-U.S.	Total
Regional	329	26	355
National Faith-Related	8	54	62
National Career-Related	12	22	34
Programmatic	15	283	298
<i>Total</i>	<i>364</i>	<i>385</i>	<i>749</i>

VI. Recognition

Accrediting organizations are “recognized” or scrutinized for quality by either the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) or the United States Department of Education (USDE). This periodic review is based on the standards established by CHEA or USDE for this purpose.

Figure 6-1

Accrediting Organizations Recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or the U.S. Department of Education*

	CHEA	USDE
Regional	8	8
Faith-Related	4	4
Career-Related	2	7
Programmatic	46	39
Totals	60	58

Figure 6-2

Accrediting Organizations Recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or the U.S. Department of Education or Both

	USDE and CHEA	USDE only	CHEA only
Regional (8)	8	0	0
Faith-Related (4)	4	0	0
Career-Related (7)	2	5	0
Programmatic (61)	24	15	22
Totals (80)	38	20	22

*Some accrediting organizations are recognized by both CHEA and USDE. See Figure 6-2.

VI. Recognition

Recognized Accrediting Organizations

(as of July 2008)

This chart lists regional, national faith-related, national career-related and programmatic accreditors that are or have been recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) or the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) or both. Organizations identified by (*) are recognized; (-) indicates those not currently recognized. An asterisk (*) identifies accrediting organizations that were formerly recognized.

CHEA-recognized organizations must meet CHEA eligibility standards (www.chea.org/recognition/recognition.asp). Accreditors exercise independent judgment about whether to seek CHEA recognition. For USDE recognition, accreditation from the organization is used by an institution or program to establish eligibility to participate in federal student aid or other federal programs (www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/index.html). Some accreditors cannot be considered for USDE recognition because they do not provide access to federal funds. Other accreditors have chosen not to pursue USDE recognition.

Because CHEA affiliation and USDE recognition depend on a range of factors, readers are strongly cautioned against making judgments about the quality of an accrediting organization and its institutions and programs based solely on CHEA or USDE status. Additional inquiry is essential. If you have questions about the CHEA or USDE recognition status of an accreditor, please contact the accrediting organization.

This chart is updated when the CHEA Board of Directors recognizes or withdraws recognition of an accrediting organization and when the United States Secretary of Education recognizes or withdraws recognition of an accrediting organization. Please visit the CHEA Website at: www.chea.org

ACCREDITOR	CHEA Recognized Organization	USDE Recognized Organization
REGIONAL ACCREDITING ORGANIZATIONS		
Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools Middle States Commission on Higher Education	●	●
New England Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Institutions of Higher Education	●	●
New England Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Technical and Career Institutions	●	●
North Central Association of Colleges and Schools The Higher Learning Commission	●	●
Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities	●	●
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges	●	●
Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges	●	●
Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities	●	●
NATIONAL FAITH-RELATED ACCREDITING ORGANIZATIONS		
Association for Biblical Higher Education Commission on Accreditation	●	●
Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools Accreditation Commission	●	●
Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada	●	●
Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools Accreditation Commission	●	●
NATIONAL CAREER-RELATED ACCREDITING ORGANIZATIONS		
Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools	—	●
Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology	—	●
Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training	—	●
Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools	●	●
Council on Occupational Education	—	●
Distance Education and Training Council Accrediting Commission	●	●
National Accrediting Commission of Cosmetology Arts and Sciences, Inc.	—	●

Recognized Accrediting Organizations (continued)

ACCREDITOR	CHEA Recognized Organization	USDE Recognized Organization
PROGRAMMATIC ACCREDITING ORGANIZATIONS		
AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business	●	*
Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc.	●	*
Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine	—	●
Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education	—	●
Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education	●	●
Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc.	●	—
Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications	●	*
American Academy for Liberal Education	—	●
American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education	●	●
American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Council for Accreditation	●	—
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs	●	●
American Bar Association Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar	—	●
American Board of Funeral Service Education Committee on Accreditation	●	●
American Council for Construction Education	●	*
American Culinary Federation Foundation, Inc. Accrediting Commission	●	*
American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation	—	●
American Dietetic Association Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education	●	●
American Library Association Committee on Accreditation	●	*
American Occupational Therapy Association Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education	●	●
American Optometric Association Accreditation Council on Optometric Education	●	●
American Osteopathic Association Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation	*	●
American Physical Therapy Association Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education	●	●
American Podiatric Medical Association Council on Podiatric Medical Education	●	●
American Psychological Association Commission on Accreditation	●	●
American Society for Microbiology American College of Microbiology	—	*
American Society of Landscape Architects Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board	●	*
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology	●	●
American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education	●	●
Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc., Accreditation Commission	—	●
Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs	●	*
Aviation Accreditation Board International	●	—

VI. Recognition

Recognized Accrediting Organizations (continued)

ACCREDITOR	CHEA Recognized Organization	USDE Recognized Organization
Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs	●	*
Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education	●	●
Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education	●	●
Commission on English Language Program Accreditation	—	●
Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation	—	●
Commission on Opticianry Accreditation	—	*
Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs	●	—
Council for Interior Design Accreditation	●	*
Council on Chiropractic Education Commission on Accreditation	●	●
Council on Education for Public Health	—	●
Council on Naturopathic Medical Education	—	●
Council on Rehabilitation Education Commission on Standards and Accreditation	●	*
Council on Social Work Education Office of Social Work Accreditation and Educational Excellence	●	*
Joint Review Committee on Education Programs in Radiologic Technology	●	●
Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology	●	●
Liaison Committee on Medical Education	—	●
Midwifery Education Accreditation Council	—	●
Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education	—	●
National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences	●	*
National Architectural Accrediting Board, Inc.	—	*
National Association of Industrial Technology	●	*
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health Council on Accreditation	—	●
National Association of Schools of Art and Design Commission on Accreditation	●	●
National Association of Schools of Dance Commission on Accreditation	●	●
National Association of Schools of Music Commission on Accreditation and Commission on Community/Junior College Accreditation	●	●
National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation	●	—
National Association of Schools of Theatre Commission on Accreditation	●	●
National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education	●	●
National Environmental Health Science and Protection Accreditation Council	—	*
National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, Inc.	●	●
National Recreation and Park Association Council on Accreditation	●	—
Planning Accreditation Board	●	—
Society of American Foresters	●	*
Teacher Education Accreditation Council Accreditation Committee	●	●
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Commission on Certification and Accreditation	—	*

Appendix

Key to Abbreviations for Institutional Accrediting Organizations

REGIONAL Accrediting Organizations

Middle States	Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools Middle States Commission on Higher Education
New England (Higher Education)	New England Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Institutions of Higher Education
New England (Technical/Career)	New England Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Technical and Career Institutions
North Central	North Central Association of Colleges and Schools The Higher Learning Commission
Northwest	Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities
Southern	Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges
Western (Junior)	Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges
Western (Senior)	Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities

NATIONAL FAITH-RELATED Accrediting Organizations

ABHE	Association for Biblical Higher Education Commission on Accreditation
AARTS	Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools Accreditation Commission
ATS	Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada
TRACS	Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools Accrediting Commission

NATIONAL CAREER-RELATED Accrediting Organizations

ABHES	Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools
ACCSC	Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology
ACCET	Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training
ACICS	Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools
COE	Council on Occupational Education
DETC	Distance Education and Training Council Accrediting Commission
NACCAS	National Accrediting Commission of Cosmetology Arts and Sciences, Inc.

CHEA

Council for Higher Education Accreditation

One Dupont Circle NW • Suite 510

Washington DC 20036-1135

tel: 202-955-6126 • fax: 202-955-6129

e-mail: chea@chea.org • www.chea.org