

COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION

RECOGNITION DECISION SUMMARY

ACCREDITATION REVIEW COMMISSION ON EDUCATION FOR THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT, INC. (ARC-PA)

In accordance with the [2010 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures](#), Paragraph 43, this summary of recognition status describes the formal action taken by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) Board of Directors with regard to an accrediting organization seeking recognition by CHEA.

Profile of Accrediting Organization

Type of Accrerator: Programmatic

Number of Programs: 181

Current CHEA-Recognized Scope of Accreditation

Programs preparing individuals for entry into physician assistant practice located in institutions in the United States that are accredited by recognized regional accrediting bodies. (2015)

CHEA Recognition Information

History: Recognized by CHEA in January 2005; May 2015

Most Recent Recognition Action

Date: CHEA Board of Directors Meeting, May 4-5, 2015

Decision: Recognition for up to 10 years

The CHEA Committee on Recognition and the Board of Directors reviewed the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA). The review was based on the six CHEA recognition standards that require an accrediting organization to show that its accreditation process advances academic quality, demonstrates accountability, encourages self-scrutiny and planning, employs fair and appropriate procedures and demonstrates ongoing review of practice, and that it possesses sufficient resources to carry out its accreditation processes (*2010 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures*, Paragraphs 12A-12F, pp. 5-8).

ARC-PA demonstrated that it meets these standards and that its accreditation process is consistent with the quality, improvement and accountability expectations that CHEA has established. ARC-PA will annotate its scope statement to clarify that ARC-PA accredited programs are located in institutions offering associate, baccalaureate or master's degrees.

The CHEA recognition policy requires that an accrediting organization undergo a recognition review least every 10 years and submit two interim reports.