

# COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION

## RECOGNITION DECISION SUMMARY

### HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION (HLC)

In accordance with the [2010 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures, Paragraph 43](#), this summary 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 Accreditor: Institutional

Number of Institutions: 1,008

#### **Current CHEA-Recognized Scope of Accreditation**

*Degree granting institutions incorporated in Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming or federally authorized sovereign nations that are authorized (licensed) by the same state or nation to award higher degrees (associate, baccalaureate, master's and doctoral degrees (both research and professional)). (2012)*

#### **CHEA Recognition Information**

History: Recognized by CHEA in January 2003; January 2015

#### **Most Recent Recognition Action**

Date: CHEA Board of Directors Meeting, January 26, 2015

Decision: Recognition up to ten years

The CHEA Committee on Recognition and the Board of Directors reviewed the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). 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).

HLC demonstrated that it meets these standards and that its accreditation process is consistent with the quality, improvement and accountability expectations that CHEA has established.

#### **Prior Actions on HLC's Application for Recognition**

CHEA Board of Directors Meeting January 27, 2014: The CHEA Committee on Recognition and the Board of Directors reviewed North Central Association of Colleges and Schools-The Higher Learning Commission (NCA-HLC). 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).

The Board of Directors deferred recognition in order for NCA-HLC to implement a clear standard that meets the requirements of 12(B)(1) that requires institutions or programs to routinely provide reliable information to the public on their performance, including student achievement as determined by the institution or program (Paragraph 12(B)(1), 2010 *CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures*).

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

Posted: July 30, 2015