

COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION

RECOGNITION DECISION SUMMARY

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FORENSIC SCIENCES (AAFS) FORENSIC SCIENCE EDUCATION PROGRAMS ACCREDITATION COMMISSION (FEPAC)

In accordance with the [2019 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures, Paragraph 39](#), this summary describes the formal status of an accrediting organization in relation to recognition by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

Profile of Accrediting Organization

Type of Accreditor: Programmatic

Number of Programs: 41

Current CHEA-Recognized Scope of Accreditation

FEPAC accredits forensic science education programs that lead to a bachelor's or master's degree in forensic science or in a natural science with a forensic science concentration in the United States and Internationally. FEPAC will also accredit bachelor's or master's programs with a digital evidence concentration. (2015)

CHEA Recognition Information

History: No prior recognition by CHEA

Most Recent Recognition Action

Date: CHEA Board of Directors Meeting, September 24–25, 2012

Decision: Recognition for up to 10 years

The CHEA Committee on Recognition and the Board of Directors reviewed the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) Forensic Science Educational Program Accreditation Commission (FEPAC). 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 (*2006 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures*, Paragraphs 12A-12F, pp. 5-8).

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

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