

# COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION

## RECOGNITION DECISION SUMMARY

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

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 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. ARC-PA accredited programs are located in institutions offering, associate, baccalaureate or masters degrees in conjunction with the PA credential award. (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.