

# COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION

## RECOGNITION DECISION SUMMARY

### SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS (SAF)

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: 68

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

*Degree programs in forestry and natural resources leading to associate degrees or their equivalent, baccalaureate degrees, and master's degrees in the United States and Canada. (2013)*

#### **CHEA Recognition Information**

History: Recognized by CHEA in May 2001

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

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

Decision: Denial of recognition

The CHEA Committee on Recognition and the Board of Directors reviewed the Society of American Foresters (SAF). 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).

The Board of Directors denied recognition due to lack of evidence that SAF implements accreditation standards or policies that require institutions or programs routinely to provide reliable information to the public on their performance, including student achievement as determined by the institution or program (Paragraph 12B.1), *2006 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures*.

#### **Prior Action on SAF's Application for Recognition**

CHEA Board of Directors Meeting April 28-29, 2014: The Board of Directors continued deferral of recognition in order to obtain evidence that SAF implements accreditation standards or policies that require institutions or programs routinely to provide reliable information to the public on their performance, including student achievement as determined by the institution or program (Paragraph 12B.1), *2006 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures*.

CHEA Board of Directors Meeting September 23, 2013: The Board of Directors continued deferral of recognition in order to obtain evidence that SAF implements accreditation standards or policies that require institutions or programs routinely to provide reliable information to the public on their performance, including student achievement as determined by the institution or program (Paragraph 12B.1), *2006 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures*.

CHEA Board of Directors Meeting September 24-25, 2012: The Board of Directors deferred recognition in order to obtain (1) evidence that SAF implements accreditation standards or policies that require institutions or programs routinely to provide reliable information to the public on their performance, including student achievement as determined by the institution or program (Paragraph 12(B)(1), *2006 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures*); (2) clarification of the change proposed for SAF's CHEA-recognized scope of accreditation and how the changes fulfill the requirements of Paragraph 10, *2006 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures*; (3) evidence that accreditation status is disclosed clearly to the public (Paragraph 12(B)(5), *2006 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedure*); and (4) evidence that SAF makes clear that its accreditation procedures include a self-evaluation by the institution or program and on-site review by a visiting team, or has alternative processes that CHEA considers to be valid (Paragraph 9(F), *2006 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures*).