

CHEA THE NATIONAL VOICE OF ACCREDITATION MEMBER BENEFITS

The Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) is a nonprofit organization started by college and university presidents in an effort to respond to the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Congress, as well as to “recognize” institutional and programmatic accrediting organizations in the United States. CHEA “recognition” indicates that an accrediting organization has met rigorous CHEA standards for the promotion of academic quality, institutional improvement, and advancement of student success; demonstration of public accountability for performance and transparency; and sustains an effective accreditation structure and organization.

It was the efforts of these earlier presidents who insisted that universities should be the primary determinants of quality academic performance. The institutional and program “self-study” processes and the philosophy of academic continuous improvement are the cornerstones of CHEA’s advocacy and recognition. For more than 25 years, CHEA has been the primary advocate for institutions in the accreditation process. Previous years have indicated a growing assertive effort by the federal government to issue more regulations regarding academic quality in higher education, which are often tied to federal funding. CHEA continues to serve on behalf of public, private, two- and four-year degree-granting institutions. Our member institutions benefit from a myriad of CHEA services including:

- Representation and advocacy for institutions’ autonomy in defining quality through accreditation
- Recognition of approximately 60 U.S. institutional and programmatic accreditors
- The CHEA online *Database* that lists accredited institutions and programs (*marketing source for colleges and universities*)
- University leadership Summer Roundtable (*no cost for members*)
- CHEA Fellows Program (*exclusive benefit for members*)
- Annual CHEA and CHEA International Quality Group Conference (*discounted registration*)
- The CHEA *Almanac*, a sourcebook of information on external quality review
- The *Federal Update*, *Accreditation in the News*, *International QA in the News*, and *Inside Accreditation* (*articles, reports, op-eds, and reviews about quality assurance in the United States and around the world*)
- A listing of contacts on U.S. House, and Senate committees and at the Department of Education that influence higher education policy (*exclusive benefit for members*)
- Publication of feature articles from member institutions’ leadership
- Webinars on accreditation and quality assurance-related issues (*no cost for members*)

Please visit the Council for Higher Education Accreditation website (www.chea.org) to learn more about CHEA and for membership information.