

COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION

RECOGNITION DECISION SUMMARY

HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION (HLC)

In accordance with the [2021 CHEA Standards and Procedures for Recognition](#), Procedures-B.11, this summary provides the reason(s) for the recognition decision by the CHEA Board of Directors.

Profile of Accrediting Organization

Type of Accreditor: Institutional

Number of Institutions: 973

Current CHEA-Recognized Scope of Accreditation

Degree granting institutions of higher education incorporated in or operating under federal authority in, the United States; and that have a substantial presence, as defined elsewhere in HLC policy, in the United States. This includes degree granting institutions operating within federally authorized sovereign nations that are authorized (licensed) by the same any state within the United States or such federally authorized sovereign nation to award higher degrees (including associate, baccalaureate, master's or doctoral degrees (both research and professional)). (2021)

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.

Recognition information as of July 30, 2015, Profile information as of February 10, 2021, Scope as of November 2021