

COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION

RECOGNITION DECISION SUMMARY

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (ALA-CoA) COMMITTEE ON ACCREDITATION

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: Programmatic

Number of Programs: 68

Current CHEA-Recognized Scope of Accreditation

Accredits master's programs in library and information studies offered under the degree-granting authority of institutions in the United States, its territories, possessions, and protectorates; in Canada by agreement with the Canadian Federation of Library Associations/Fédération canadienne des associations de bibliothèques (CFLA-FCAB); and in the United Kingdom. (2019)

CHEA Recognition Information

History: Initial recognition, May 2001
Recognition for up to 10 years, April 2013
Recognition deferred; term of recognition extended one year (December 31, 2024)

Most Recent Recognition Action

Date: CHEA Board of Directors Meeting, January 27, 2025

Decision: The CHEA Board of Directors awarded continuing recognition for a term of seven years with an Interim Report due at the midpoint of the recognition term (July 1, 2028).

Summary of Prior Recognition Decisions

CHEA Board of Directors Meeting, October 2, 2023: The Committee on Recognition informed the CHEA Board of Directors that it deferred action on Recognition for one year. ALA-CoA is to submit a response addressing CHEA Standards 1.C. (resources specific to ensuring adequate student health and safety), 3.A. (the accrediting organization's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion), 3.G. (the accrediting organization's demonstration of engaging in regular self-evaluation), 3.I. (the accrediting organization's demonstration of sufficient financial resources), and 4.A. (the capacity to engage in international accreditation activities).

CHEA Board of Directors Meeting, April 29-30, 2013: The CHEA Board of Directors awarded recognition for the maximum term of 10 years. The CHEA recognition policy requires that an accrediting organization undergo a recognition review at least every 10 years and submit two interim reports.

The CHEA Committee on Recognition and the Board of Directors reviewed the American Library Association Committee on Accreditation (ALA-CoA). 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. 4-8).

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

CHEA Board of Directors Meeting, September 24-25, 2012: The CHEA Committee on Recognition and the Board of Directors reviewed the American Library Association Committee on Accreditation (ALA-CoA). 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 deferred recognition in order to obtain additional information regarding ALA-CoA's 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 Policy and Procedures).

CHEA Board of Directors Meeting, January 23, 2012: The Board of Directors deferred recognition in order to obtain additional information regarding ALA-CoA's 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 Policy and Procedures*).