

# COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION

## RECOGNITION DECISION SUMMARY

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

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: 310

#### 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 master's degrees in conjunction with the PA credential award. (2015)*

#### CHEA Recognition Information

History: Initial recognition, January 2005  
Recognition for up to 10 years, May 2015

#### 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, May 4-5, 2015: 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 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.