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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What Is the CHEA International Quality Group?

The CHEA International Quality Group (CIQG) is a forum for colleges and universities, accrediting and quality assurance organizations, higher education associations, governments, businesses, foundations and individuals to address issues and challenges for quality assurance in an international setting. CIQG was launched in September 2012 by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), a non-profit, non-governmental association focused on U.S. accreditation and higher education quality assurance worldwide.

Why Is CIQG Important Now?

Internationalization is now a powerful force throughout the academic community. Student exchanges and faculty exchanges are expanding rapidly. More and more research is now carried out by international teams of academics. Preparation for international engagement is becoming a routine feature of the undergraduate curriculum. At meetings, in Webinars and through publications and presentations, CIQG members exchange information and ideas on common interests and concerns including public accountability, student learning outcomes, new modes of educational delivery, international quality expectation, the role of government, academic freedom, non-institutional education, a single set of quality standards, rankings, degree mills and more.

What Does CIQG Offer?

CIQG offers a range of products and activities including:

Publications

- *Quality International*, the CIQG newsletter
- The CIQG *Policy Brief* series
- In-depth papers such as *The DNA of a Converging Diversity* by higher education consultant Peter Wells

Meetings and Special Events

- CIQG Annual Meetings
- Webinars on topics such as “Exploring Quality Review for Non-Institutional Education Providers”
- CIQG special activities such as surveys on key issues for quality assurance internationally
- CIQG member discounts on registration for the CIQG Annual Meetings and for CHEA meetings including the Annual Conference and Summer Workshop

CIQG Website

- An international directory of quality assurance bodies and ministries of education
- Presentations from the CIQG 2014 and 2013 Annual Meetings

- Presentations and materials from prior CHEA international activities, including the CHEA International Commission
- Links to international reference sources, including the *UNESCO Portal on Higher Education Institutions* and a glossary of accreditation and quality assurance terms published by the Global University Network for Innovation
- International sections of the *CHEA Almanac of External Quality Review*

CIQG Consultation Services

- Consultation services offered on a fee-for-service basis, with fees determined by the type and scope of work
- CIQG member discounts on consultation service fees

Who Is Eligible to Join the Quality Group?

Membership in the Quality Group is open to:

- Higher education institutions in the United States accredited by U.S. Department of Education- or CHEA-recognized accrediting organizations
- Higher education institutions from other countries in good standing with their national quality assurance bodies
- Higher education accreditation and quality assurance organizations sanctioned by government or other competent authorities
- Higher education associations
- Government agencies
- Businesses and corporations
- Foundations
- Individuals not employed by an institution or organization that is eligible for CIQG membership

Are Current CHEA Institutional Members Part of the Quality Group?

Membership in the Quality Group is an additional benefit to current CHEA member institutions as part of annual dues.

How Can Other Institutions and Organizations Join the Quality Group?

Go to the CIQG Website (www.cheainternational.org) for additional information, including the cost of membership and an online and printable version of the CIQG membership application.

Where Can I Get More Information on the Quality Group?

For more information on the CHEA International Quality Group – including information on the CIQG’s fee-for-service consultation services – please send your email to info@cheainternational.org or call (202) 955-6126.

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