CHEA- and USDE-Recognized Accrediting Organizations

(as of March 2017)

Part I of this chart lists regional, national faith-related, national career-related and programmatic accreditors that are or have been recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) or the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) or both. Organizations identified by (•) are recognized; (–) indicates those not recognized. An asterisk (*) identifies accrediting organizations that were formerly recognized and not currently recognized.

CHEA-recognized organizations must meet CHEA eligibility standards (www.chea.org/userfiles/Recognition/Recognition-Policy-28June10.pdf). Accreditors exercise independent judgment about whether to seek CHEA recognition. For USDE recognition, accreditation from the organization is used by an institution or program to establish eligibility to participate in federal student aid or other federal programs (www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/index.html). Some accreditors cannot be considered for USDE recognition because they do not provide access to federal funds. Other accreditors have chosen not to pursue USDE recognition.

Because CHEA affiliation and USDE recognition depend on a range of factors, readers are strongly cautioned against making judgments about the quality of an accrediting organization and its institutions and programs based solely on CHEA or USDE status. Additional inquiry is essential. If you have questions about the CHEA or USDE recognition status of an accreditor, please contact the accrediting organization.

This chart is updated when the CHEA Board of Directors recognizes or withdraws recognition of an accrediting organization and when the United States Secretary of Education recognizes or withdraws recognition of an accrediting organization. Please visit the CHEA website at: www.chea.org

PART I

ACCREDITOR	CHEA Recognition Status	USDE Recognition Status
REGIONAL ACCREDITING ORGANIZATIONS		
Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges Western Association of Schools and Colleges	•	•
Higher Learning Commission	•	•
Middle States Commission on Higher Education	•	•
New England Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Institutions of Higher Education	•	•
Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities	*	•
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges	•	•
WASC Senior College and University Commission	•	•
NATIONAL FAITH-RELATED ACCREDITING ORGANIZATIONS		
Association for Biblical Higher Education Commission on Accreditation	•	•
Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools Accreditation Commission	•	•
Association of Institutions of Jewish Studies	—	•
Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools	•	•
Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools Accreditation Commission	•	•
NATIONAL CAREER-RELATED ACCREDITING ORGANIZATIONS		
Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools	—	•
Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges	—	•
Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training	—	•
Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools*	•	*
Council on Occupational Education	—	•
Distance Education Accrediting Commission	•	•
National Accrediting Commission of Career Arts and Sciences, Inc.	—	•

* Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools was previously USDE-recognized; pending litigation regarding USDE denial of recognition decision.

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CHEA- and USDE-Recognized Accrediting Organizations (continued)

ACCREDITOR	CHEA Recognition Status	USDE Recognition Status
PROGRAMMATIC ACCREDITING ORGANIZATIONS		
ABET	●	*
Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine	—	●
Accreditation Commission for Audiology Education	●	—
Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing	●	●
Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education	—	●
Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs	●	*
Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics	*	●
Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education	●	●
Accreditation Council on Optometric Education	●	●
Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc.	●	—
Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications	●	*
American Academy of Forensic Sciences Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission	●	—
American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Council for Accreditation	●	—
American Board of Funeral Service Education Committee on Accreditation	●	●
American Council for Construction Education	●	*
American Culinary Federation Education Foundation, Inc. Accrediting Commission	●	*
American Library Association Committee on Accreditation	●	*
American Occupational Therapy Association Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education	●	●
American Osteopathic Association Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation	*	●
American Physical Therapy Association Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education	●	●
American Podiatric Medical Association Council on Podiatric Medical Education	●	●
American Psychological Association Commission on Accreditation	●	●
American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education	●	●
Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc. Accreditation Commission	—	●
Association of Technology, Management, and Applied Engineering	●	*
Aviation Accreditation Board International	●	—
Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education	●	—
Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy	●	*
Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care	●	—
Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs	●	*
Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education	●	—
Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education	●	*
Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education	*	●

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CHEA- and USDE-Recognized Accrediting Organizations (continued)

ACCREDITOR	CHEA Recognition Status	USDE Recognition Status
Commission on Dental Accreditation American Dental Association	—	●
Commission on English Language Program Accreditation	—	●
Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation	—	●
Commission on Opticianry Accreditation	●	*
Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs	●	—
Council for Interior Design Accreditation	●	*
Council for Standards in Human Service Education	●	—
Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation	●	—
Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar American Bar Association	—	●
Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology American Speech-Language-Hearing Association	●	●
Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs	●	●
Council on Chiropractic Education	●	●
Council on Education for Public Health	—	●
Council on Naturopathic Medical Education	—	●
Council on Rehabilitation Education Commission on Standards and Accreditation	●	*
Council on Social Work Education Commission on Accreditation	●	*
International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education	●	—
International Fire Service Accreditation Congress - Degree Assembly	●	—
Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology	●	●
Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology	●	*
Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board American Society of Landscape Architects	●	*
Liaison Committee on Medical Education	—	●
Midwifery Education Accreditation Council	—	●
Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education	—	●
National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences	●	*
National Association of Schools of Art and Design Commission on Accreditation	*	●
National Association of Schools of Dance Commission on Accreditation	*	●
National Association of Schools of Music Commission on Accreditation	*	●
National Association of Schools of Theatre Commission on Accreditation	*	●
National Recreation and Park Association Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism and Related Professions	●	—
Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation	●	—
Planning Accreditation Board	●	—
Psychological Clinical Science Accreditation System	●	—

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CHEA- and USDE-Recognized Accrediting Organizations (continued)

PART II

Part II of this chart lists accreditors previously recognized by either CHEA or the USDE or both and not currently recognized by either group. Organizations identified by (–) indicates those not recognized. An asterisk (*) identifies accrediting organizations that were formerly recognized and are no longer recognized.		
AACSB International–The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business	*	*
American Academy for Liberal Education	—	*
American Society for Microbiology American College of Microbiology	—	*
National Architectural Accrediting Board, Inc.	—	*
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health Council on Accreditation	—	*
National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education	*	*
National Environmental Health Science and Protection Accreditation Council	—	*
New England Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Technical and Career Institutions	*	*
Society of American Foresters	*	*
Teacher Education Accreditation Council	*	*
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Commission on Certification and Accreditation	—	*

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