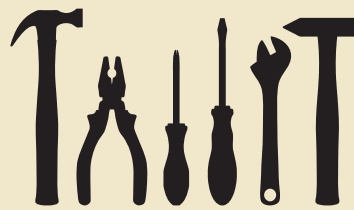

ACCREDITATION TOOL KIT



CHEA[®]

*Council for Higher Education Accreditation
One Dupont Circle • Suite 510
Washington, DC 20036
Tel: 202.955.6126 • Fax: 202.955.6129
Email: chea@chea.org • www.chea.org*

The Council for Higher Education Accreditation Mission Statement

The Council for Higher Education Accreditation will serve students and their families, colleges and universities, sponsoring bodies, governments and employers by promoting academic quality through formal recognition of higher education accrediting bodies and will coordinate and work to advance self-regulation through accreditation.

—1996

CHEA

ACCREDITATION TOOL KIT



The Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) **Accreditation Tool Kit** is designed to provide important information on U.S. higher education accreditation and recognition to students, faculty, presidents and chancellors, governing boards of higher education institutions and accrediting organizations.

Click on one or more of the buttons to the left for information on accreditation, sorted by the category of user.

WELCOME!

STUDENTS



Information on U.S. higher education accreditation to assist students, prospective students, parents, counselors and others

Topics addressed include accreditation and its value, institutions and programs in the United States accredited by recognized accrediting organizations, distance education, transfer of credit and degree mills and the danger they pose.

Informational Videos on Accreditation

- [*Accreditation and Its Value to You*](#) (February 2011)
- [*Types of Accreditation: What's the Difference?*](#) (February 2011)
- [*Degree Mills and Accreditation Mills*](#) (February 2011)

Institutions and Programs in the United States Accredited by Recognized Accrediting Organizations

- [*Council for Higher Education Accreditation \(CHEA\) Database of Institutions and Programs Accredited by Recognized U.S. Accrediting Organizations*](#) (October 2013)

Understanding Accreditation

- [*The Fundamentals of Accreditation: What Do You Need to Know?*](#) (September 2002)
- [*What Is Accreditation?*](#) (February 1998)
- [*The Value of Accreditation*](#) (June 2010)
- [*Ask Before You Decide*](#) (October 2010)
- [*“Profile of Accreditation”*](#) (CHEA Fact Sheet #1, August 2012)
- [*“Twelve Important Questions About External Quality Review”*](#) (CHEA Fact Sheet #3, September 2001)
- [*“Accrediting Organizations in the United States: How Do They Operate to Assure Quality?”*](#) (CHEA Fact Sheet #5, April 2006)

Avoiding Degree Mills and Accreditation Mills

- [*“Important Questions About ‘Diploma Mills’ and ‘Accreditation Mills’”*](#) (CHEA Fact Sheet #6, May 2003)

STUDENTS *(continued)*



Distance Education and Accreditation

- “[*MOOCs and Accreditation: Focus on the Quality of ‘Direct-to-Students’ Education*](#)” (*Inside Accreditation*, November 2012)
- “[*The Online Revolution: Education for Everyone*](#)” (Andrew Ng, 2013 CHEA Annual Conference Presentation)
- “[*Accreditation and Assuring Quality in Distance Education*](#)” (*CHEA Monograph*, 2002)

Transfer of Credit

- “[*A Framework for Meeting Transfer of Credit Responsibilities*](#)” (*CHEA Fact Sheet #4*, May 2002)
- “[*Transfer and the Public Interest: A Statement to the Community*](#)” (*CHEA Advisory Statement*, November 2000)

Quality, Accreditation and Graduate Education

- “[*Quality, Accreditation, and Graduate Education: What Does the Future Hold?*](#)” (*Inside Accreditation* by John Wiley, February 2009)

Additional Information Resources

- [*CHEA on YouTube*](#) (January 2011)
- [*CHEA on Facebook*](#) (October 2013)
- [*CHEA on Twitter*](#) (October 2013)

FACULTY



Information for faculty members interested in accreditation and recognition in the United States

Topics addressed include accreditation and its operation, institutions and programs in the United States accredited by recognized accrediting organizations, accreditation and academic freedom and integrity, student achievement, accountability, distance education and transfer of credit.

Institutions and Programs in the United States Accredited by Recognized Accrediting Organizations

- [Council for Higher Education Accreditation \(CHEA\) Database of Institutions and Programs Accredited by Recognized U.S. Accrediting Organizations](#) (October 2013)

U.S. Accreditation and Recognition

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U.S. Law and Regulation on Accreditation

- [*The National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity \(NACIQI\) Website*](#)
- [*National Recognition of Accrediting Agencies by the U.S. Secretary of Education*](#) (Information on the U.S. Department of Education Website)
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- [*“State Uses of Accreditation: Results of a Fifty-State Inventory”*](#) (*CHEA Occasional Paper*, September 2010)

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- [*“Accreditation, Professional Interest and the Public Interest: Conflict or Convergence?”*](#) (*Inside Accreditation*, October 2006)

Student Learning Outcomes

- [*“Improving Completion, Maintaining Access”*](#) (Bill Scroggins, 2013 CHEA Annual Conference Presentation)
- [*Effective Institutional Practice in Student Learning Outcomes: CHEA Award Recipients*](#) (February 2013)
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- [*“New Leadership for Student Learning and Accountability”*](#) (*CHEA/Association of American Colleges and Universities Advisory Statement*, January 2008)
- [*“Evidence of Student Learning”*](#) (Mary Jane Harris, 2008 CHEA Summer Workshop Presentation)

FACULTY

(continued)



- [*“Statement of Mutual Responsibilities for Student Learning Outcomes: Accreditations, Institutions and Programs”*](#) (CHEA Advisory Statement, September 2003)
- [*“Accreditation and Student Learning Outcomes: A Proposed Point of Departure”*](#) (CHEA Occasional Paper, September 2001)
- [*“The Competency Standards Project: Another Approach to Accreditation Review”*](#) (CHEA Occasional Paper, August 2001)
- [*“Advancing Quality Through Attention to Results”*](#) (CHEA Chronicle, November 1998)

Accreditation and Academic Integrity

- [*“Accreditation and Academic Integrity: The Connection Between Academic Integrity and Higher Education Accreditation”*](#) (Daniel Wueste, 2012 CHEA Annual Conference Presentation)

Accreditation and Academic Freedom

- [*“Accreditation and Academic Freedom”*](#) (CHEA/Association of American University Professors Advisory Statement, November 2012)
- [*“Academic Freedom and Accreditation”*](#) (Jerry Gaff, 2010 CHEA Annual Conference Presentation)
- [*“Accreditation and Academic Freedom”*](#) (Neil Hamilton, 2010 CHEA Annual Conference Presentation)
- [*“Academic Freedom and the Role of Accreditation”*](#) (Robert O’Neil, 2008 CHEA Summer Workshop Presentation)

Distance Education and Accreditation

- [*“MOOCs and Accreditation: Focus on the Quality of ‘Direct-to-Students’ Education”*](#) (Inside Accreditation, November 2012)
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FACULTY

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Quality, Accreditation and Graduate Education

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Degree Mills and Accreditation Mills

- “[*Important Questions About ‘Diploma Mills’ and ‘Accreditation Mills’*](#)” (*CHEA Fact Sheet #6*, May 2003)

Additional Information Resources

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PRESIDENTS & CHANCELLORS



Information to assist presidents and chancellors interested in accreditation and recognition in the United States

Topics addressed include accreditation and its operation, institutions and programs in the United States accredited by recognized accrediting organizations, accreditation and accountability, student learning outcomes, distance education and transfer of credit.

Institutions and Programs in the United States Accredited by Recognized Accrediting Organizations

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PRESIDENTS & CHANCELLORS (continued)



CHEA Videos

- [*Accreditation and Its Value to You*](#) (February 2011)
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- [*The National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity \(NACIQI\) Website*](#)
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- [*“State Uses of Accreditation: Results of a Fifty-State Inventory”*](#) (*CHEA Occasional Paper*, September 2010)

Presidents & Chancellors and Accreditation

- *Presidential Guidelines Series*
 - [*“Presidential Leadership and Accreditation”*](#) (Volume 1, September 2006)
 - [*“Presidential Leadership”*](#) (Volume 2, November 2006)
 - [*“Preparing for the Self Study – The President’s Role”*](#) (Volume 3, January 2007)
 - [*“Preparing for the Site Visit – The President’s Role”*](#) (Volume 4, March 2007)
 - [*“Using the Accreditation Visit to Benefit the Institution”*](#) (Volume 5, April 2007)
 - [*“What Presidents Need to Know About International Accreditation and Quality Assurance”*](#) (Volume 6, July 2007)

PRESIDENTS & CHANCELLORS *(continued)*



- “[*Presidents and Accreditation*](#)” (Robert Glidden, 2007 CHEA Annual Conference Presentation)
- “[*Presidents and Accreditation: The Need for Leadership and the Importance of Engagement*](#)” (Dennis Holtschneider, 2007 CHEA Annual Conference Presentation)
- “[*Presidents and Accreditation: The Need for Leadership and the Importance of Engagement*](#)” (Charlene Nunley, 2007 CHEA Annual Conference Presentation)
- “[*Presidential Perspectives on Accreditation: A Report of the CHEA Presidents Project*](#)” (CHEA Monograph, April 2006)
- “[*Accreditation, Public Policy and Presidential Leadership*](#)” (CHEA Letter from the President, May 2005)

Accreditation and Accountability

- “[*Accountability: An ‘Old’ Issue in a New Era*](#)” (*Inside Accreditation*, June 2009)
- “[*Balancing Competing Goods: Accreditation and Information to the Public About Quality*](#)” (CHEA Letter from the President, March 2004)
- “[*Is Accreditation Accountable? The Continuing Conversation Between Accreditation and the Federal Government*](#)” (CHEA Monograph, October 2003)
- “[*Accreditation in a More Demanding World*](#)” (Daniel Yankelovich, 2006 CHEA Annual Conference Presentation)
- “[*Accreditation, Professional Interest and the Public Interest: Conflict or Convergence?*](#)” (*Inside Accreditation*, October 2006)

Student Learning Outcomes

- “[*Improving Completion, Maintaining Access*](#)” (Bill Scroggins, 2013 CHEA Annual Conference Presentation)
- [*Effective Institutional Practice in Student Learning Outcomes: CHEA Award Recipients*](#) (February 2013)
- “[*Effective Practices: The Role of Accreditation in Student Achievement*](#)” (CHEA Advisory Statement, March 2010)
- “[*New Leadership for Student Learning and Accountability*](#)” (CHEA/Association of American Colleges and Universities Advisory Statement, January 2008)
- “[*Evidence of Student Learning*](#)” (Mary Jane Harris, 2008 CHEA Summer Workshop Presentation)
- “[*Statement of Mutual Responsibilities for Student Learning Outcomes: Accreditations, Institutions and Programs*](#)” (CHEA Advisory Statement, September 2003)

PRESIDENTS & CHANCELLORS (continued)



- [*“Accreditation and Student Learning Outcomes: A Proposed Point of Departure”*](#) (CHEA Occasional Paper, September 2001)
- [*“The Competency Standards Project: Another Approach to Accreditation Review”*](#) (CHEA Occasional Paper, August 2001)
- [*“Advancing Quality Through Attention to Results”*](#) (CHEA Chronicle, November 1998)

Distance Education and Accreditation

- [*“MOOCs and Accreditation: Focus on the Quality of ‘Direct-to-Students’ Education”*](#) (Inside Accreditation, November 2012)
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- [*“Accreditation and Academic Integrity: The Connection Between Academic Integrity and Higher Education Accreditation”*](#) (Daniel Wueste, 2012 CHEA Annual Conference Presentation)

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- [*“Transfer of Credit: Taking a Fresh Look or Continuing the Controversy?”*](#) (Inside Accreditation, November 2005)
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- [*“Transfer and the Public Interest: A Statement to the Community”*](#) (CHEA Advisory Statement, November 2000)

Quality, Accreditation and Graduate Education

- [*“Quality, Accreditation, and Graduate Education: What Does the Future Hold?”*](#) (Inside Accreditation by John Wiley, April 2009)

PRESIDENTS & CHANCELLORS (continued)



Degree Mills and Accreditation Mills

- “[*Important Questions About ‘Diploma Mills’ and ‘Accreditation Mills’*](#)” (*CHEA Fact Sheet #6*, May 2003)

Additional Information Resources

- [*CHEA on YouTube*](#) (January 2011)
- [*CHEA on Facebook*](#) (October 2013)
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GOVERNING BOARDS



Information to assist members of institutional governing boards interested in accreditation and recognition in the United States

Topics addressed include accreditation and its operation, institutions and programs in the United States accredited by recognized accrediting organizations, accreditation and academic freedom, academic integrity, accountability, student achievement, distance education and transfer of credit.

Institutions and Programs in the United States Accredited by Recognized Accrediting Organizations

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U.S. Accreditation and Recognition

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- [*2010 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures*](#) (2010)
- [*An Overview of U.S. Accreditation*](#) (August 2012)
- [*The Condition of Accreditation: U.S. Accreditation in 2011*](#) (August 2012)
- [*Accreditation and Recognition in the United States*](#) (2012)
- [*“CHEA Recognition of Accrediting Organizations and Why It Matters”*](#) (*Inside Accreditation*, April 2011)
- [*“Profile of Accreditation”*](#) (*CHEA Fact Sheet #1*, August 2012)
- [*What Is Accreditation?*](#) (February 1998)
- [*“Twelve Important Questions About External Quality Review”*](#) (*CHEA Fact Sheet #3*, September 2001)
- [*“Accrediting Organizations in the United States: How Do They Operate to Assure Quality?”*](#) (*CHEA Fact Sheet #5*, April 2006)

GOVERNING BOARDS

(continued)



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U.S. Law and Regulation on Accreditation

- [*The National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity \(NACIQI\) Website*](#)
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- [*The Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 \(HEOA\), Title IV, Part H*](#)
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- [*“Who Watches the Watchman? Thoughts on the Federal Relationship to Accreditation in Higher Education”*](#) (Matthew Finkin, 2009 CHEA Annual Conference Presentation)
- [*“State Uses of Accreditation: Results of a Fifty-State Inventory”*](#) (*CHEA Occasional Paper*, September 2010)

Governing Boards and Their Role in Accreditation and Student Learning Outcomes

- [*“CHEA/AGB Joint Advisory Statement on Accreditation and Governing Boards”*](#) (*CHEA/Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges Advisory Statement*, September 2009)
- [*“Using the Accreditation Visit to Benefit the Institution”*](#) (*Presidential Guidelines Series*, Volume 5, April 2007)
- [*“Governing Boards and Student Learning”*](#) (Richard Beyer, Robert Holyer and Susan Johnson, 2011 CHEA Annual Conference Presentation)

GOVERNING BOARDS

(continued)



Accreditation and Accountability

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Student Learning Outcomes

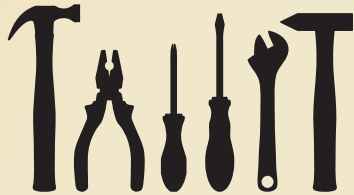
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ACCREDITING ORGANIZATIONS



Information on U.S. higher education accreditation and recognition for accrediting and quality assurance organizations, including statistics on accreditation and its operation

Topics addressed include institutions and programs in the United States accredited by recognized accrediting organizations, U.S. law and regulation governing accreditation, accreditation and accountability, student learning outcomes, distance education, transfer of credit and degree mills and accreditation mills.

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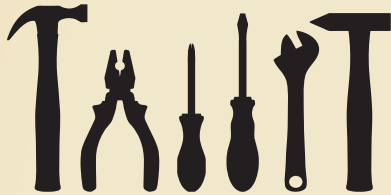
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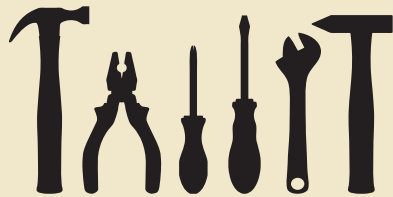
Accreditation and Electronic Technology

- [*“Accreditation and Electronic Technology”*](#) (Doris Gordon, 2013 CHEA Annual Conference Presentation)
- [*“Data Collection and Accreditation: Working More Efficiently and Effectively”*](#) (Brad Phillips and Robert Pacheco, 2012 CHEA Summer Workshop Presentation)

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- [*“Accreditation in a More Demanding World”*](#) (Daniel Yankelovich, 2006 CHEA Annual Conference Presentation)
- [*“Accreditation, Professional Interest and the Public Interest: Conflict or Convergence?”*](#) (*Inside Accreditation*, October 2006)

ACCREDITING ORGANIZATIONS *(continued)*



Distance Education and Accreditation

- “[*MOOCs and Accreditation: Focus on the Quality of Direct-to-Students’ Education*](#)” (*Inside Accreditation*, November 2012)
- “[*The Online Revolution: Education for Everyone*](#)” (Andrew Ng, 2013 CHEA Annual Conference Presentation)
- “[*International Quality Review and Distance Learning: Lessons from Five Countries*](#)” (*CHEA Occasional Paper*, January 2005)
- “[*Accreditation and Assuring Quality in Distance Education*](#)” (*CHEA Monograph*, 2002)
- “[*Distance Learning: Academic and Political Challenges for Higher Education Accreditation*](#)” (*CHEA Monograph*, 2001)

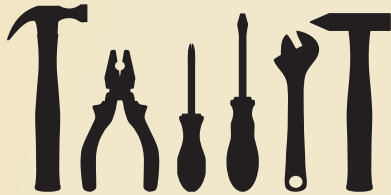
Student Learning Outcomes

- “[*Improving Completion, Maintaining Access*](#)” (Bill Scroggins, 2013 CHEA Annual Conference Presentation)
- [*Effective Institutional Practice in Student Learning Outcomes: CHEA Award Recipients*](#) (February 2013)
- “[*Effective Practices: The Role of Accreditation in Student Achievement*](#)” (*CHEA Advisory Statement*, March 2010)
- “[*New Leadership for Student Learning and Accountability*](#)” (*CHEA/Association of American Colleges and Universities Advisory Statement*, January 2008)
- “[*Evidence of Student Learning*](#)” (Mary Jane Harris, 2008 CHEA Summer Workshop Presentation)
- “[*Statement of Mutual Responsibilities for Student Learning Outcomes: Accreditations, Institutions and Programs*](#)” (*CHEA Advisory Statement*, September 2003)
- “[*Accreditation and Student Learning Outcomes: A Proposed Point of Departure*](#)” (*CHEA Occasional Paper*, September 2001)
- “[*The Competency Standards Project: Another Approach to Accreditation Review*](#)” (*CHEA Occasional Paper*, August 2001)
- “[*Advancing Quality Through Attention to Results*](#)” (*CHEA Chronicle*, November 1998)

Accreditation, Academic Freedom and Academic Integrity

- “[*Accreditation and Academic Freedom*](#)” (*CHEA/Association of American University Professors Advisory Statement*, November 2013)
- “[*Accreditation and Academic Integrity: The Connection Between Academic Integrity and Higher Education Accreditation*](#)” (Daniel Wueste, 2012 CHEA Annual Conference Presentation)

ACCREDITING ORGANIZATIONS *(continued)*



Transfer of Credit

- [*“Transfer of Credit: Taking a Fresh Look or Continuing the Controversy?”*](#) (*Inside Accreditation*, November 2005)
- [*“A Framework for Meeting Transfer of Credit Responsibilities”*](#) (*CHEA Fact Sheet #4*, May 2002)
- [*“Transfer and the Public Interest: A Statement to the Community”*](#) (*CHEA Advisory Statement*, November 2000)

Degree Mills and Accreditation Mills

- [*“Important Questions About ‘Diploma Mills’ and ‘Accreditation Mills’”*](#) (*CHEA Fact Sheet #6*, May 2003)
- [*“Toward Effective Practice: Discouraging Degree Mills in Higher Education”*](#) (*CHEA/United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Statement*, 2009)
- [*“Combating Site-Based and Distance-Based Degree Mills: Suggestions for Effective Practice”*](#) (*CHEA Advisory Statement*, February 2007)
- [*State Information on Institutions Licensed or Authorized to Operate*](#) (February 13, 2013)

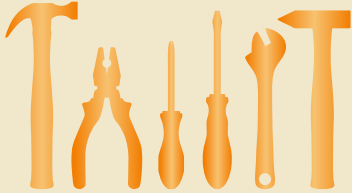
Accreditation and Quality Assurance Internationally

- [*“Principles for United States Accreditors Working Internationally: Accreditation of Non-United States Institutions and Programs”*](#) (*CHEA Advisory Statement*, September 2001)

Additional Information Resources

- [*CHEA on YouTube*](#) (January 2011)
- [*CHEA on Facebook*](#) (October 2013)
- [*CHEA on Twitter*](#) (October 2013)

Where Can You Find More Information on Accreditation?



The CHEA Website provides the most comprehensive source of information on higher education accreditation. Links to all of the information in the CHEA Accreditation Tool Kit can be found on CHEA's Website, along with a wealth of other accreditation-related information.

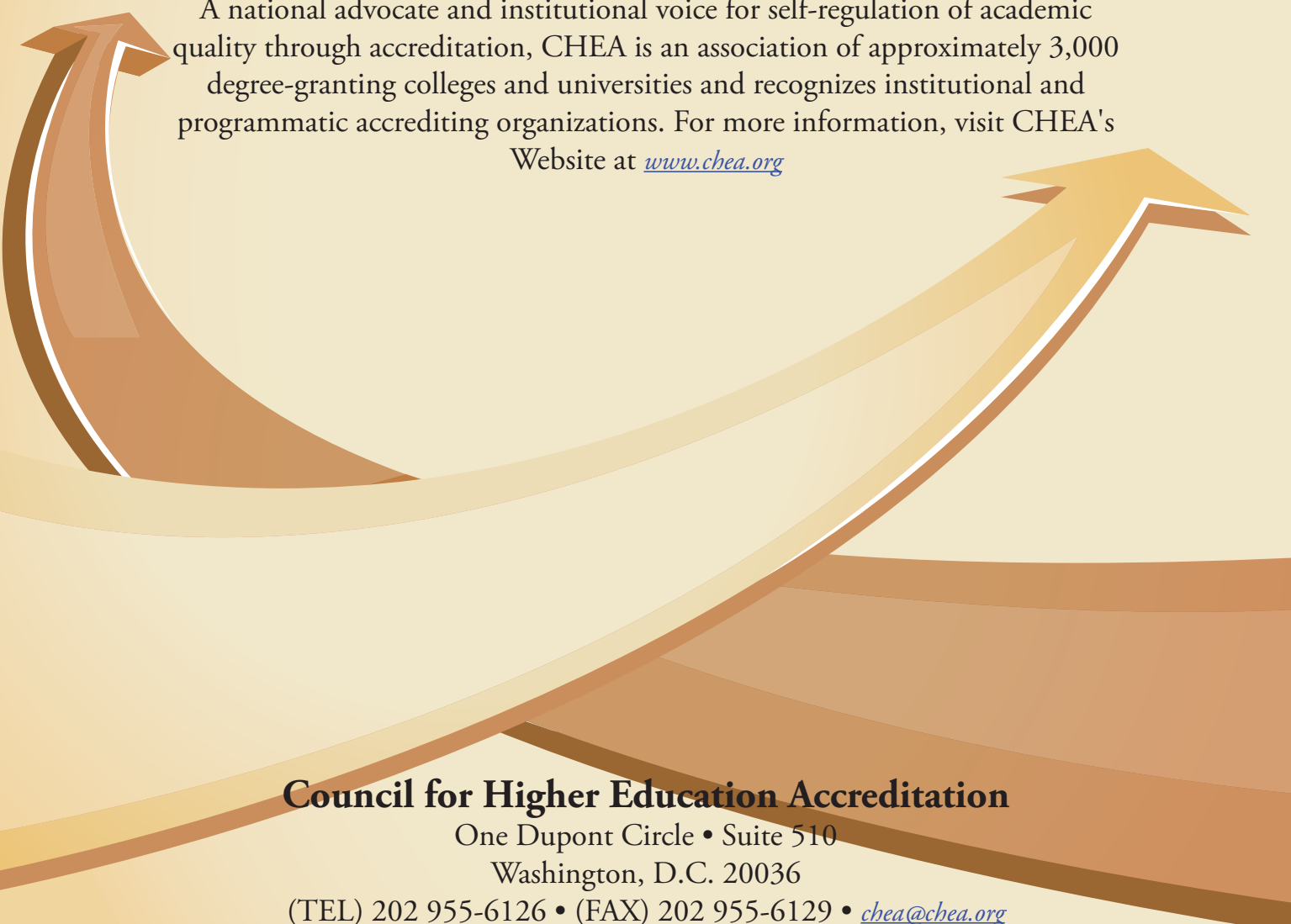
Visit the CHEA Website for:

- *Accreditation-related directories and databases*
- *Publications, fact sheets and letters on federal policy and accreditation*
- *CHEA's recognition policy and procedures and recent CHEA recognition decisions*
- *Information on combating degree mills and accreditation mills*
- *CHEA research and publications*
- *The CHEA Almanac Online, a regularly updated information resource on accreditation in the United States*
- *The home page of the CHEA International Quality Group (CIQG) Website, with information on the CIQG and its activities*
- *Information about upcoming CHEA conferences and meetings*

VISIT THE CHEA WEBSITE AT:

WWW.CHEA.ORG

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A national advocate and institutional voice for self-regulation of academic quality through accreditation, CHEA is an association of approximately 3,000 degree-granting colleges and universities and recognizes institutional and programmatic accrediting organizations. For more information, visit CHEA's Website at www.chea.org

Council for Higher Education Accreditation

One Dupont Circle • Suite 510

Washington, D.C. 20036

(TEL) 202 955-6126 • (FAX) 202 955-6129 • chea@chea.org

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