
June 21, 2019

Ms. Karen L. O'Brien
Director, Office for Accreditation
American Library Association - Committee on Accreditation
50 East Huron Street
Chicago, IL 60611-2795

Dear Karen:

At its June 3-4, 2019 meeting, the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) Committee on Recognition reviewed the Interim Report and Additional Information Report submitted by the American Library Association-Committee on Accreditation (ALA-COA). The Additional Information Report was in response to the CHEA committee letter of December 20, 2018. This is to inform you that the committee voted to accept the reports.

At the same time, the committee noted that the way in which ALA-COA provides information to the public, specific to CHEA Standards 11.A.1 and 11.B.1, can be improved and provides the following suggestions.

CHEA Standard 11.A.1 calls for the accreditor to inform the public of the reasons for accreditation actions while Standard 12.D.3 stipulates that this information also be present in the directory of accredited programs. The committee confirmed and appreciates that ALA-COA provides the number of the ALA-COA standard and a descriptor of the standard (e.g., Standard I.V.2-program information available to students and general public) in its directory of accredited programs. However, to fully meet CHEA Standards 11.A.1 and 12.D.3, ALA-COA needs to provide information about accreditation actions related to all programs, accompanied by details about why the status has been awarded, including any conditions imposed.

CHEA Standard 11.B.1 calls for the accreditor to ensure that accredited programs provide timely, readily accessible, accurate and consistent aggregate information to the public about programmatic performance and student achievement. The committee noted that the presence and accessibility of this information on individual program websites is inconsistent and would benefit from additional monitoring for completeness and currency.

This information is due by no later than September 1, 2019 for review at the committee's November 2019 meeting.

Additionally, the committee noted that ALA-COA will be submitting a change-of-scope request by no later than September 1, 2019 for review at the committee's November 2019 meeting. This information was provided to the committee, based on a conversation with you and CHEA staff.

Additionally, please be advised that feedback regarding the April 30, 2019 Transition Framework Part 1 will be provided under separate cover.

ALA-COA was recognized by CHEA in April 2013 for a period of 10 years. If ALA-COA is planning to seek subsequent recognition from CHEA, the *Guidelines* that accompany the 2019 recognition policy call for completion of the recognition process by the end of the final year of the current period of recognition (December 2023). All accreditors that are recognized by CHEA or seeking CHEA recognition are to meet all recognition standards in the newly revised 2019 policy.

Additionally, please be advised that feedback regarding the April 30, 2019 Transition Framework Part 1 will be provided under separate cover.

If you have any questions regarding the committee action or the recognition process, please contact Lori Schroeder, Vice President for Recognition Services, at 202.372.9254 or schroeder@chea.org.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Judith Eaton', written over a horizontal line.

Judith Eaton
President

cc: Lori Schroeder, Vice President for Recognition Services