

COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION

RECOGNITION DECISION SUMMARY

AMERICAN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION (AOTA-ACOTE) ACCREDITATION COUNCIL FOR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY EDUCATION

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: 445

Current CHEA-Recognized Scope of Accreditation

ACOTE is a nationally-recognized accrediting body for occupational therapy educational programs in the United States, Puerto Rico, and internationally, offering one or more of the following credentials for the occupational therapist: professional master's degree, combined baccalaureate/master's degree, and/or professional occupational therapy doctorate degree. In addition, ACOTE accredits occupational therapy assistant baccalaureate-degree-level and associate-degree-level educational programs in the United States and Puerto Rico. This recognition includes the accreditation of occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistant educational programs offered via distance education. (2019)

CHEA Recognition Information

History: Initial recognition by CHEA in April 2002
Recognition for up to 10 years, April 2013

Most Recent Recognition Action

Date: CHEA Board of Directors Meeting, January 23, 2023

Decision: The CHEA Board of Directors awarded continuing CHEA-recognition for a term of seven-years with an Interim Report due at the midpoint of the recognition term (July 1, 2026).

Summary of Prior Recognition Decisions

CHEA Board of Directors Meeting, April 29-30, 2013: 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 Council for Occupational Therapy (ACOTE). 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).

ACOTE demonstrated that it meets these standards and that its accreditation process is consistent with the quality, improvement and accountability expectations that CHEA has established.

Scope and recognition information as of February 2, 2023