PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE AGENCY

ACAOM is a national programmatic and institutional accreditor. Its current scope of recognition is for the accreditation and pre-accreditation (“Candidacy” status) throughout the United States of first-professional master's degree and professional master's level certificate and diploma programs in acupuncture and Oriental medicine and professional post-graduate doctoral programs in acupuncture and in Oriental Medicine (DAOM), as well as freestanding institutions and colleges of acupuncture or Oriental medicine that offer such programs. It is requesting a clarification, although not an expansion, of its current scope of recognition.

The agency currently accredits 52 Master of Oriental Medicine programs, with an additional four programs in pre-accreditation status; 27 Master of Acupuncture programs; and nine Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine programs, with an additional three programs in pre-accreditation status. The agency accredits or pre-accredits programs and institutions in 22 states. Thirty-eight of the agency's 56 accredited and candidate programs are in single-purpose, freestanding institutions of higher education. Only the accredited freestanding institutions of acupuncture and Oriental medicine may use the agency's accreditation to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV student financial aid and other related programs under the Higher Education Act.

According to the Accreditation Group's records, the Department has received two complaints regarding the agency during the current recognition cycle. Both complaints were resolved in the agency's favor and no further action was taken by the Department.

PART II: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The agency meets the requirements of the Secretary's Criteria for Recognition.
PART III: THIRD PARTY COMMENTS
The Department did not receive any written third-party comments regarding this agency.