

U.S. Department of Education Staff Report

to the

Senior Department Official on Recognition Compliance Issues

Recommendation Page

1. **Agency:** Liaison Committee On Medical Education (1952 / 2012)
(The dates provided are the date of initial listing as a recognized agency and the date of the agency's last grant of recognition.)
2. **Action Item:** Petition for Continued Recognition
3. **Current Scope of Recognition:** The accreditation of medical education programs within the United States leading to the M.D. degree.
4. **Requested Scope of Recognition:** Same as above
5. **Date of Advisory Committee Meeting:** 05/22/2018
6. **Staff Recommendation:** Renew the agency's recognition for five years
7. **Issues or Problems:** None

Executive Summary

PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE AGENCY

The Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) accredits medical education programs leading to the M.D. degree. Currently, LCME accredits 125 M.D. education programs in the United States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, which are operated by universities or medical schools that are chartered in the United States.

The LCME is a programmatic accreditor, and, therefore, does not have to meet the separate and independent requirements as set forth in the Secretary's Criteria. Accreditation by LCME is a required element in enabling its programs to establish eligibility to participate in Federal non-HEA programs. Specifically, programs administered by the Department of Health and Human Services require that medical education programs be accredited by LCME and that LCME be recognized by the Secretary of Education in order to participate in a variety of programs, such as the Scholarship and Loan Repayment Programs and Health Professions Student Loan Program (including Primary Care Loans and Loans for Disadvantaged Students). The agency's programs also use its accreditation to receive Title VII funding administered by the Public Health Service.

Recognition History

The American Medical Association (AMA) and the Association of the American Medical Colleges (AAMC) initially evaluated medical schools independently. In 1942, the AMA and the AAMC formed the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), whose mission is to certify the quality of North American medical education programs, in order to ensure that the training provided by the medical schools equips graduates to provide optimal care. In the 1970s, a linkage was formed with the Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Colleges to jointly accredit M.D. programs in Canada.

The Council on Medical Education and Hospitals of the American Medical Association (AMA) appeared on the first list of nationally recognized accrediting agencies that was published in 1952. The LCME was first recognized as a nationally recognized accrediting body in its own right in 1972. The recognition of the agency has been renewed several times since then.

In 1997, the agency's scope of recognition was changed from accrediting institutions and programs to only accrediting medical education programs. A full review of the agency was conducted again in June 2002, after which the Secretary granted continued recognition for a period of five years.

The last full review of the agency for continued recognition by the Secretary was conducted at the Fall 2012 NACIQI meeting. At that time the NACIQI continued the agency's recognition and require the agency to come into compliance within 12 months, and submit a compliance report that demonstrates the agency's compliance with the issues identified in the staff analysis.

At its June 2014 the NACIQI accepted the LCME report. The SDO continue the agency's recognition for a period of three and one-half years.

The LCME petition for continued recognition is the subject of this report. The Department received no third-party comments in connection with the agency's petition for continued recognition.

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.