November 8, 2019

Henry Cram, President
Middle States Commission on Secondary Schools
3624 Market Street, 2 West
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104-2680

Dear Mr. Cram:

I am writing to inform you of my decision on the renewal of recognition of the Middle States Commission on Secondary Schools (MSA-CESS). U.S. Department of Education (Department) staff and the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) have each made recommendations to me. These recommendations were made under Sections 114 and 496 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, and pursuant to relevant statutory and regulatory provisions.

Both the Department staff and the NACIQI recommended that I now find the MSA-CESS compliant and grant the MSA-CESS renewed recognition as an institutional and programmatic accrediting agency for a period of three years. I concur with the recommendations of the Department staff and of the NACIQI. Accordingly, I grant renewed recognition to MSA-CESS for a period of three years.

Scope of Recognition: the accreditation of institutions with postsecondary, non-degree granting career and technology programs in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands to include the accreditation of postsecondary, non-degree granting institutions that offer all or part of their educational programs via distance education modalities.

Please convey my best wishes to the members of the MSA-CESS. We appreciate the work that the MSA-CESS does to improve the quality and success of U.S. postsecondary education.

Sincerely,

Diane Auer Jones
Principal Deputy Under Secretary
Delegated to Perform the Duties of Under Secretary
U.S. Department of Education