



THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20202

November 20, 2017

Dr. Robert Plaga  
Deputy Minister for Research and Higher Education  
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports  
Karmelitska 529/5  
118 12 Praha 1  
Czechia 11812

Dear Dr. Plaga:

On September 21, 2017, the National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA) met to evaluate the documents submitted by the Accreditation Commission, Czechia, submitted on behalf of the Government of Czechia, describing the current standards and processes used to accredit medical schools in your country.

The purpose of the NCFMEA's review was to determine the comparability of accreditation standards and processes applied to medical schools in Czechia, to the system used to accredit medical schools in the United States (U.S.). Under U.S. law, accredited medical schools in a country that NCFMEA deems comparable may apply to participate in the U.S. William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) program. Then, if a medical school participates in the Direct Loan program, U.S. students attending the school may apply for Direct Loans to help cover educational expenses. For more information about foreign schools' participation in the Direct Loan program, access the Foreign School Information Web page at: <http://ifap.ed.gov/ForeignSchoolInfo/ForeignSchoolInfo.html>.

The NCFMEA wishes to thank Martina Vidláková, Accreditation Commission, for attending the meeting to provide additional information regarding Czechia and the Accreditation Commission's accreditation activities. Her testimony was very helpful, and the Committee valued her participation in the meeting.

The NCFMEA determined that it needs additional information in order to make its decision regarding the comparability of the standards used by the Accreditation Commission to accredit medical schools in Czechia. In particular, the NCFMEA requires supporting documentation that is translated into English. Therefore, the NCFMEA will defer its comparability determination until its fall 2018 meeting, pending receipt of English-translated documents.

The U.S. Department of Education will contact the Accreditation Commission, Czechia before the fall 2018 NCFMEA meeting regarding the preparation and submission of the material. If you have any questions about the meeting, please contact Jennifer Hong, NCFMEA Executive Director, at [jennifer.hong@ed.gov](mailto:jennifer.hong@ed.gov).

Thank you for providing the information regarding the country's accreditation of medical schools. We appreciate your ongoing interest in maintaining high-quality standards for medical education.

Sincerely,



Betsy DeVos

cc: U.S. Department of State, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, Czechia Desk Office