



THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20202

December 10, 2018

Ms. Gülcan Erkut-Yildiran
Department for International Policy
Ministry of Education, Culture and Science
P.O. Box 16375
2500 BJ The Hague
The Netherlands

Dear Ms. Erkut-Yildiran:

The National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA) met on September 26-27, 2018. One of the agenda items was to evaluate the documents submitted by the Accrediting Organization of the Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO) on behalf of the Government of the Netherlands regarding the country's medical education accreditation activities.

The purpose of NCFMEA's review was to monitor the continuing comparability of accreditation standards and processes applied to medical schools in the Netherlands 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: <https://ifap.ed.gov/ForeignSchoolInfo/ForeignSchoolInfo.html>.

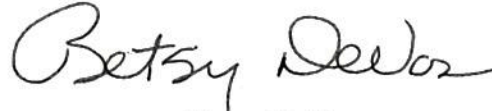
The NCFMEA accepted the special report submitted by the Netherlands. The Netherlands is due for a redetermination of comparability at the NCFMEA's spring 2020 meeting.

The U.S. Department of Education will contact the Government of the Netherlands before the spring 2020 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.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betsy DeVos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Betsy DeVos

cc: U.S. Department of State, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, Netherlands Desk
Officer