



THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20202

June 10, 2019

Honorable Shawn K. Richards
Deputy Prime Minister
Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports, Culture
P.O. Box 333
Church Street
Basseterre
St. Kitts, WI

Dear Mr. Richards:

On April 16, 2019, the National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA) met to evaluate the documents submitted by the Accreditation Commission on Colleges of Medicine (ACCM) on behalf of the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis describing the current standards and processes used to accredit medical schools in your country.

The purpose of NCFMEA's review was to determine the comparability of the country's medical accreditation system for Doctor of Medicine programs, or the equivalent, to the system used to accredit such programs in the United States (U.S.). Under U.S. law, accredited schools in a country that NCFMEA finds 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, visit the Foreign School Information web page at: <http://ifap.ed.gov/ForeignSchoolInfo/ForeignSchoolInfo.html>.

The NCFMEA reviewed the information submitted regarding ACCM's accreditation activities on behalf of the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis for a redetermination of comparability. The NCFMEA wishes to thank Drs. Anthony Peacock and Ellis McGovern of ACCM, for attending the meeting to provide additional information regarding St. Kitts and Nevis and ACCM's accreditation activities. Their testimony was insightful, and the Committee valued their participation in the meeting.

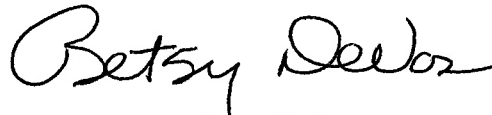
I am pleased to inform you that the NCFMEA has determined that the standards and processes used by ACCM to accredit medical schools in St. Kitts and Nevis are comparable to those used to accredit medical schools in the United States. The NCFMEA further required a special report from the country in two years regarding the outstanding issues identified in the final staff report, as well as the final inspection reports for Medical University of the Americas and the University of Medicine and Health Sciences.

The U.S. Department of Education will contact ACCM and the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis several months before the spring 2022 NCFMEA meeting regarding the preparation and submission of the report.

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: Dr. Anthony Peacock, ACCM
U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, St. Kitts and Nevis
Desk Office