



THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20202

June 10, 2019

Honorable Naftali Bennett
Minister of Education
Chairman, Council for Higher Education
P.O.B. 4037
Jerusalem 91040
Israel

Dear Mr. Bennett:

On April 16, 2019, the National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA) met to evaluate the documents submitted by the Council for Higher Education on behalf of the Government of Israel 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 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 the Council for Higher Education accreditation activities on behalf of the Government of Israel for a redetermination of comparability. The NCFMEA wishes to thank Drs. Matanyahu Englman, Itamar Kahn, Karl Skorecki, and Mr. Michael Diamond, for attending the meeting to provide additional information regarding Israel and the Council for Higher Education's accreditation activities. Their testimony was insightful, and the Committee valued their participation in the meeting.

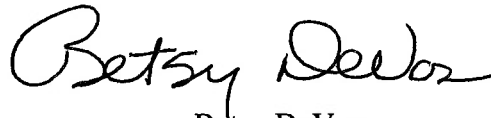
I am pleased to inform you that the NCFMEA has determined that the standards and processes used by the Council for Higher Education to accredit medical schools in Israel are comparable to those used to accredit medical schools in the United States. The NCFMEA further required an update report from the country in two years on its accreditation activities.

The U.S. Department of Education will contact Israel's Council for Higher Education several months before the spring 2022 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 Near Eastern Affairs, Israel Desk Office