



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

May 9, 2018

Barbara E. Brittingham, President
New England Association Of Schools and Colleges
Commission on Institutions of Higher Education
3 Burlington Woods Drive, Suite 100
Burlington, MA 01803-4514

Dear Dr. Brittingham:

I am writing to inform you of my decision on the renewal of recognition of the New England Association Of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education (NEA CIHE). 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 grant NEA CIHE renewed federal recognition for a period of five years. I concur with those recommendations and I grant renewed recognition to NEA CIHE for a period of five years.

Scope of Recognition: The accreditation and pre-accreditation (“Candidacy status”) of institutions of higher education in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont that award bachelor’s master’s and/or doctoral degrees and associate degree-granting institutions in those states that include degrees in liberal arts or general studies among their offerings, including the accreditation of programs offered via distance education within these institutions. Jointly with the Commission, this recognition extends to its Executive Committee and also to the Appeals Body for decisions related to the appeal of denial or withdrawal of candidacy; probation; and denial or withdrawal of accreditation.

Please convey my best wishes to the members of the NEA CIHE. We appreciate their work to improve the quality and success of U.S. postsecondary education.

Sincerely,

Diane Auer Jones
Senior Policy Advisor
Office of Postsecondary Education

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