



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY

August 22, 2018

Marlene Moore, Interim President  
Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities  
8060 165th Avenue, NE, Suite 100  
Redmond, Washington 98052

Dear Dr. Moore:

I am writing to inform you of my decision on the renewal of recognition of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU). 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 NWCCU renewed federal recognition for a period of five years. I concur with the recommendations of the Department staff and of the NACIQI. Accordingly, I grant renewed recognition to NWCCU for a period of five years.

Scope of Recognition: The accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidacy status") of postsecondary degree-granting educational institutions in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington, and the accreditation of programs offered via distance education within these institutions.

Please convey my best wishes to the members of the NWCCU. We appreciate their work to improve the quality and success of U.S. postsecondary education. We also commend the commission on its support for innovative solutions to move higher education into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Diane Auer Jones".

Diane Auer Jones  
Principal Deputy Under Secretary  
Delegated to Perform the Duties of Under Secretary  
U.S. Department of Education

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