



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT

May 25, 2017

Mary Reeves
Executive Director
Commission on English Language Program Accreditation
1001 N. Fairfax Street, Suite 630
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Dear Ms. Reeves,

I am writing to inform you of my decision on the renewal of recognition of the Commission on English Language Program Accreditation (CEA). 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 continue CEA's recognition as a nationally recognized accrediting agency at this time, require the agency to come into compliance within 12 months of the date of this letter, and to submit a compliance report due 30 days thereafter that demonstrates CEA's compliance with the following section of the Secretary's Criteria for Recognition:

The agency must establish and implement a policy for proper use of extensions for good cause that meets the requirements of this criterion. 34 C.F.R. §602.20(b).

I concur with the recommendations of the Department staff and of the NACIQI to continue CEA's recognition as a nationally recognized accrediting agency, with the scope of recognition detailed below. Furthermore, I agree with recommendations for the time necessary for CEA to achieve compliance within 12 months of this letter; for CEA to submit a compliance report within 30 days following the 12-month period; and for the Department to review and make a final recognition decision in light of the compliance report under the procedures set forth in 34 C.F.R. Part 602, Subpart C.

Scope of Recognition: The accreditation of postsecondary, non-degree-granting English language programs and institutions in the United States.

Please submit CEA's compliance report using the Department's electronic submission system, which can be accessed at opweb.ed.gov/aslweb. Material that cannot be submitted electronically may be forwarded in hard copy. Please submit four copies of any hard copy material to: Accreditation Group, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, #6W243, Washington, D.C., 20202.

400 MARYLAND AVE., S.W., WASHINGTON, DC 20202
www.ed.gov

The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

I trust that CEA will be able to come into full compliance by the deadline, and to document such compliance in its compliance report within 30 days thereafter. However, please note that if CEA does not do so, the Department may be compelled to limit, suspend, or terminate CEA's recognition. Such action is required per Section 496(l) of the Higher Education Act, a provision added in 1998, which requires limitation, suspension, or termination of any agency found to be either in noncompliance with the criteria for recognition or ineffective in its performance with respect to those criteria. Alternatively, the law allows the agency to be given a period of time to come into compliance, which in CEA's case is the above-mentioned 12-month period. If the agency fails to come into compliance within the specified timeframe, the law requires termination of the agency's recognition unless it is determined that the timeframe for coming into compliance should be extended for good cause.

Please convey my best wishes to the members of CEA. We appreciate the work that CEA does to improve the quality and success of U.S. postsecondary education.

Sincerely,



Holly L. Ham
Assistant Secretary
Office of Management