



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

WASHINGTON, DC 20202

September 22, 2016

Florence Tate, Executive Director  
Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools  
7777 Leesburg Pike, Suite 314N  
Falls Church, Virginia 22043  
[ftate@abhes.org](mailto:ftate@abhes.org)

Dear Ms. Tate,

I am writing to inform you of my decision on the renewal of the recognition of the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES). Department of Education staff and the National Advisory Council 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 (HEA), as amended, and pursuant to relevant statutory and regulatory provisions.

Both the staff and NACIQI recommended that I continue ABHES' recognition as a nationally recognized accrediting agency at this time for a period of five years.

As required, I considered the full record and the transcript of the agency appearance before NACIQI on June 24, 2016.

Under the applicable law and regulations, and the record before me, I am satisfied that accreditation by ABHES is a required element in enabling the institutions the agency accredits to establish eligibility to participate in programs administered by the U.S. Department of Education under the HEA, and I concur with the recommendations of Department staff and NACIQI. Accordingly, I renew the Department's recognition of ABHES as a nationally recognized accrediting agency with the scope of recognition as detailed below for five years from the date of this letter.

**Scope of recognition:** The accreditation of private, postsecondary institutions in the United States offering predominantly allied health education programs and the programmatic accreditation of medical assistant, medical laboratory technician and surgical technology program, leading to a certificate, diploma, Associate of Applied Science, Associate of Occupational Science, Academic Associate degree, or

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Baccalaureate degree, including those offered via distance education. The scope extends to the Substantive Change Committee, jointly with the Commission, for decisions on substantive change.

We appreciate the work of ABHES to improve the quality and success of U.S. postsecondary education. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emma Vadehra', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Emma Vadehra  
Chief of Staff