

Name: Dominican Republic	Meeting Date: 04/01/2019	Response Submit Date: 03/08/2019	Status: Final Review	Type: Redetermination
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U.S. Department of Education
Redetermination for the Dominican Republic

Prepared April, 2019

Background

In October 1997 the National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA) first determined that the accreditation standards used by the Dominican Republic to evaluate medical education programs leading to the M.D. or equivalent degree were comparable to standards of accreditation used to evaluate medical education in the United States.

The NCFMEA reaffirmed its prior determination of comparability in October 2012 after requesting additional information from the country regarding various issues of concern. At that time, the NCFMEA requested that the Dominican Republic submit an update report for review at the Spring 2014 meeting. At the Spring 2016 NCFMEA meeting, the committee requested the Dominican Republic submit a report on US Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) data. The 2016 report was accepted, and the country was then requested to submit a petition for redetermination of comparability at the Spring 2019 NCFMEA meeting. That petition is the subject of the current analysis.

Summary of Findings

Additional information is requested for the following questions. These issues are summarized below and discussed in detail under the Staff Analysis section.

-- The NCFMEA may wish to request the country provide Decree 56-10, of 06/02/2010 and Resolution No. 01-2013 in English, per the guidelines of the NCFMEA, which requires countries to provide English translations of all documents that are submitted with the application. [Approval of Medical Schools, Question 1]

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-- The NCFMEA may wish to request the country provide Resolution No. 01-2013 in English, per the guidelines of the NCFMEA, which requires countries to provide English translations of all documents that are submitted with the application. [Accreditation of Medical Schools, Question 2]

-- The NCFMEA may wish to request a copy of the medical school's organizational manuals and academic-administrative structure described in the original narrative to further answer this question. [Administrative Personnel and Authority, Question 3]

-- The NCFMEA may wish to request the country provide clarification on the following statement "the entire medical education program, including the pre-medical part (corresponding to general studies), can be compared abroad, according to the current regulations and procedures in each institution" in relation to whether or not the country allows any part of the preclinical educational program (basic sciences portion of the program) to be taken outside of the country in which the medical school is located. [Remote Sites, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may wish to request the country provide the complete paragraph one of the provided response to whether or not the medical schools are encouraged to make available sufficient opportunities for medical students to participate in research and other scholarly activities of faculty. [Curriculum, Question 3]

-- The NCFMEA may wish to request the country provide the English translation of the procedures for handling students' complaints at the INTEC included as evidence. Pursuant to the guidelines of the NCFMEA, countries are required to provide English translations of all documents that are submitted with the application. [Student Complaints, Question 2]

-- The NCFMEA may wish to inquire whether or not the country has plans to adopt or establish facilities for the humane care of animals when animals are used in teaching and research to adhere to the requirements of this guideline. [Facilities, Question 2]

-- The NCFMEA may wish to request the country provide the Ethics policy and conflict management document for the INTEC, listed but not included as evidence, for review of the conflict of interest policies pertaining to faculty and staff. [Faculty, Question 2]

-- The NCFMEA may wish to request the country provide the English translation of the outcomes statistics until 2017 included as evidence. Pursuant to the guidelines of the NCFMEA, countries are required to provide English translations of all documents that are submitted with the application. [Accrediting/Approval Decisions, Question 4]

Staff Analysis

Overview of accreditation activities

Country Narrative

57 American students are now attending courses of Medicine at Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo [Technological Institute of Santo Domingo] (INTEC).

Evidence: Statistics on American students enrolled in INTEC.

Analyst Remarks to Narrative

The country attests that American students are enrolled in one accredited medical program in the country. Specifically, the country identified the Technological Institute of Santo Domingo with enrollment of 57 American students and provided the nationality statistics of the medical program as evidence to demonstrate adherence to this question (exhibit 1).

Analyst Remarks to Response

The Agency's original narrative and documentation provided a comprehensive response.

Staff Conclusion: Comprehensive response provided

Standards

Country Narrative

The Medicine curriculum program of the Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC), has been recertified in February 2018, declaring it as eligible to be granted federal loans as of May-July 2018 Quarter, in the framework of the Title IV of the Program of the State Department of Education of the United States of America.

Analyst Remarks to Narrative

The country attests that the Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC) is certified by the Office of Federal Student Aid. Specifically, Department staff confirmed that the INTEC medical program, which was reinstated in February 2018, is the only eligible and participating foreign graduate medical school of the country.

Analyst Remarks to Response

The Agency's original narrative and documentation provided a comprehensive response.

Staff Conclusion: Comprehensive response provided
