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| <b>Name:</b><br>Ireland | <b>Meeting Date:</b><br>09/19/2016 | <b>Response Submit Date:</b><br>08/25/2016 | <b>Status:</b> Final<br>Review | <b>Type:</b><br>Redetermination |
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## U.S. Department of Education

### Redetermination of Comparability

Prepared September 2016

#### Background

The National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA) first determined at their March 1997 meeting that Ireland's standards and processes for accrediting medical schools that offer programs leading to the Medical Doctorate degree (M.D.), or equivalent degree, were comparable to those used in the United States. The NCFMEA reaffirmed Ireland's determination of comparability in September 2009. The NCFMEA also reviewed and accepted status reports on Ireland's accrediting activities in April 2013. In April 2013 the NCFMEA determined that the country's system for accrediting medical schools continued to be comparable to that used in the United States.

The Committee requested that Ireland submit an application for redetermination of comparability in 2016. This analysis is the review of the country's 2016 comparability application.

#### 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 additional clarification regarding plans, if any, to establish national curriculum or national medical school exit examinations.

[Mission and Objectives, Question 5]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request additional clarification regarding the specific WFME standard that addresses this guideline and/or plans, if any, to adopt a standard that specifically relates to this guideline. [Governance, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request governance arrangements between the medical school and the parent university as evidence. [Governance, Question 2]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire and clarification on plans to adopt requirements regarding medical school administration as evidence.

[Administrative Personnel and Authority, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire and clarification on plans to adopt requirements regarding the position of chief academic official of a medical school. [Chief Academic Official, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request the country's plans, if any, to develop criteria to address this guideline.

[Chief Academic Official, Question 2]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request the country's plans, if any, to develop standards to address this guideline. [Program Length, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish the country to provide additional information on plans to implement the 2015 version of the WFME standards that address this guideline.

[Curriculum, Question 3]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish the country to provide additional information on plans to implement the 2015 version of the WFME standards that address this guideline. [Curriculum, Question 7]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline.

[Clinical Experience, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline.

[Clinical Experience, Question 2]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review. [Clinical Experience, Question 3]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline.  
[Supporting Disciplines]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline. [Ethics, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline.  
[Communication Skills, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline.  
[Design, Implementation, and Evaluation, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire and clarification on plans to implement the 2015 version of the WFME standards that address this guideline. [Design, Implementation, and Evaluation, Question 2]

-- The NCFMEA may wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline.  
[Design, Implementation, and Evaluation, Question 3]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request clarification on the threshold score utilized in the admission of students to address this guideline.  
[Admissions, Recruiting, and Publications, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline.  
[Admissions, Recruiting, and Publications, Question 2]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request the country's plans, if any, to develop requirements for this guideline and/or provide additional information on the adoption of the 2015 version of the WFME standards that address this guideline. [Admissions, Recruiting, and Publications, Question 4]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish the country to provide additional information on the adoption of the 2015 version of the WFME standards that address this guideline and the relevance of the press release. [Admissions, Recruiting, and Publications, Question 5]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline.  
[ Student Achievement, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline.  
[Student Achievement, Question 3]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire and completed action plan derived from the report on the external review of the accreditation process.  
[Student Achievement, Question 4]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review [Student Achievement, Question 5]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline. [Student Services, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline and clarity on the country's statutes governing complaints within the Universities Act of 1997 amended in 2012.  
[Student Complaints, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline.  
[Student Complaints, Question 2]

-- NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire and additional information on plans to implement the 2015 version of the WFME standards that address this guideline. [Finances, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline.  
[Facilities, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline.

[Facilities, Question 2]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request additional information on plans to implement the 2015 version of the WFME standards that address this guideline. [Faculty, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire and additional information on plans to implement the 2015 version of the WFME standards that address this guideline. [Faculty, Question 2]

-- NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire and additional information on plans to implement the 2015 version of the WFME standards that address this guideline. [Library]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire and additional information on plans to implement the 2015 version of the WFME standards that address this guideline. [Clinical Teaching Facilities, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline.

[Onsite Review, Question 1]

-- Staff Determination:

The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline.

[Onsite Review, Question 2]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline.

[Onsite Review, Question 3]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire and additional information on plans to implement the 2015 version of the WFME standards that address this guideline. [Onsite Review, Question 4]

-- NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire, additional information on plans to implement the 2015 version of the WFME standards, and evidence of a written standard that specifically addresses this guideline. [Onsite Review, Question 5]

-- Staff Determination:

NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire and additional information on plans to implement the 2015 version of the WFME standards that address this guideline, along with the completed action plan from the external accreditation report.

[Qualifications of Evaluators, Decision-makers, Policy-makers]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire and an annual return for review. [Re-evaluation and Monitoring, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline.

[Re-evaluation and Monitoring, Question 2]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request evidence of substantive change requests and the review of such requests along with additional information on plans to implement the 2015 version of the WFME standards that address this guideline.

[Substantive Change]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire and completed action plan derived from the report on the external review of the accreditation process for the review.

[Conflicts of Interest, Inconsistent Application of Standards, Question 2]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire and an annual return for review.

[Accrediting/Approval Decisions, Question 1]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire for review of this guideline. [Accrediting/Approval Decisions, Question 2]

-- The NCFMEA may still wish to request clarity on the existing standards or the plans to adopt requirements for this guideline.

[Accrediting/Approval Decisions, Question 3]

-- Staff Determination:

The NCFMEA may still wish to request a completed pre-site visit questionnaire, a completed action plan derived from the report on the external review of the accreditation process, and additional information on plans to implement the 2015 version of the WFME standards that address this guideline.

[Accrediting/Approval Decisions, Question 4]

**Staff Analysis**