September 20, 2017

Dr. Sherin Tooks
Director
American Dental Association
Commission on Dental Accreditation 211 East Chicago Avenue, 19th Floor
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Dr. Tooks,

I am writing to inform you of my decision on the renewal of recognition of the American Dental Association, Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). 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 CODA renewed recognition as a nationally recognized accrediting agency 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 CODA for a period of five years.

Scope of Recognition: The accreditation of predoctoral dental education programs (leading to the D.D.S. or D.M.D. degree), advanced dental education programs, and allied dental education programs that are fully operational or have attained "Initial Accreditation" status, including programs offered via distance education.

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

Sincerely,

Holly L. Ham
Assistant Secretary
Office of Management