

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **DEAC Receives Five-Year Renewal as an Accreditor from the Department of Education**

Today, the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) voted to recommend DEAC receive another five years of recognition from the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education. This is consistent with the recommendation by the Department of Education staff to the Senior Department Official that DEAC receive another five years of recognition, with the addition of direct assessment to the scope of recognition.

According to the Department's final report on DEAC, no issues or problems were identified with DEAC's Petition for Recognition. Furthermore, the Department affirmed that DEAC has standards, procedures, and qualified personnel in place to assure the quality of programs offered through a direct assessment learning models. This recommendation comes following the Department's implementation of new accreditation regulations that became effective in July 2020.

"DEAC takes its responsibility as an accreditor very seriously and has worked diligently to not only comply with all accreditation criteria, but to advance the field of distance education quality assurance," said Dr. Leah Matthews, Executive Director of DEAC. "As the only accrediting agency recognized by the Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) that is dedicated solely to serving distance learners, we have a unique opportunity – and obligation – to ensure the students served by our institutions are receiving a quality education. As we have for the past 96 years, we will proudly continue to advance this essential mission moving forward."

### **ABOUT DEAC**

The Distance Education Accrediting Commission is a private, non-profit organization founded in 1926 that operates as an accreditor of distance education institutions. DEAC's goal is to ensure a high standard of educational quality in the distance education institutions it accredits and a quality education for the students who annually study at its accredited institutions.

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