



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY

Monday, November 7, 2022

Dr. Leah Matthews, Executive Director  
Distance Education Accrediting Commission  
1101 17<sup>th</sup> St. NW, Ste. 808  
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Dr. Matthews:

I am writing to inform you of my decision on the renewal of recognition of the Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC). 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 Department staff and NACIQI recommend that I approve the Agency's request for an expanded scope of recognition, and renewal of recognition. I concur with the recommendations of the Department staff and NACIQI, and accordingly, I approve the DEAC application for continued recognition as an accreditor of postsecondary institutions in the United States that offer degree and/or non-degree programs primarily by distance or correspondence education for a period of 5 years.

**Scope of Recognition:** The accreditation of postsecondary institutions in the United States that offer degree and/or non-degree programs primarily by the distance or correspondence education method, including through direct assessment, up to and including the professional doctoral degree, including those institutions that are specifically certified by the Agency as accredited for Title IV purposes.

Sincerely,

Jordan Matsudaira  
Deputy Under Secretary

cc: Dr. Cheryl Hayek, Chair