

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

WASHINGTON, DC 20202

September 22, 2016

Dr. Karen Martens Brandt
Director, Education and Research
American Veterinary Medical Association, Council on Education
1931 North Meachem Road, Suite 100
Schaumburg, IL 60173
kbrandt@avma.org

Dear Dr. Brandt,

I am writing to inform you of my decision on the renewal of the recognition of the American Veterinary Medical Association, Council on Education (AVMA-COE). Department of Education staff and the National Advisory Council 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 (HEA), as amended, and pursuant to relevant statutory and regulatory provisions.

Both the staff and NACIQI recommended that I accept the compliance report and continue the Department's recognition of AVMA-COE as a nationally recognized accrediting agency at this time for one and one-half years.

As required, I considered the full record, which included the agency's compliance report (as set forth in the Final Staff analysis) and the transcript of the agency appearance before NACIQI on June 22, 2016.

Under the applicable law and regulations, and the record before me, I am satisfied that accreditation by AVMA-COE is a required element in enabling the institutions the agency accredits to establish eligibility to participate in non-HEA federal programs, and I concur with the recommendations of Department staff and NACIQI. Accordingly, I renew the Department's recognition of AVMA-COE as a nationally recognized accrediting agency with the scope of recognition as detailed below for one and one-half years from the date of this letter.

**Scope of recognition:** The accreditation and preaccreditation ("Provisional Accreditation") in the United States of programs leading to professional degrees (D.V.M. or D.M.D.) in veterinary medicine.

We appreciate the work of AVMA-COE to improve the quality and success of U.S. postsecondary education. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Emma Vadehra

Chief of Staff