

**Report of the Meeting of the National Committee on Foreign Medical
Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA)**

May 8, 2013



/s/

Martin Crain, Chair

Report of the Meeting
of the
**National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation
(NCFMEA)**

May 8, 2013

Martin Crane, Chair

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
BACKGROUND	4
DISCUSSION	4
ACTION	4

DISCLAIMER

This report was written as a part of the activities of the National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA).

National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA), an independent advisory committee established by statute. This report represents the views of the NCFMEA.

National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA)
Meeting Minutes/Summary
May 8, 2013

Background:

The NCFMEA was established in 1992 through amendments reauthorizing the HEA. The NCFMEA is charged with reviewing the standards that foreign countries use to accredit medical schools to determine whether those standards are comparable to the standards used to accredit medical schools in the U.S. If a country is determined to have comparable medical accreditation standards, then accredited medical schools in that country may apply to participate in the FFEL program.

The NCFMEA is an operational committee that makes final decisions for the Department on comparability. It typically consists of 11 members, appointed by the Secretary of Education, who are knowledgeable about medical education and international medical education quality assurance systems. Foreign countries voluntarily submit applications for a comparability determination review using the NCFMEA *Guidelines for Requesting a Comparability Determination* (Guidelines). The NCFMEA Guidelines are similar to, and based upon, the standards used by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) to accredit medical schools in the U.S.

In April 2012, the NCFMEA initiated an internal review of its Guidelines. Over the course of the year, NCFMEA members reviewed the Guidelines. An ad hoc NCFMEA Sub-Committee on Guidelines Review solicited member input, identified issues and concerns with specific guidelines, targeted those elements of the Guidelines that could be strengthened, clarified, de-emphasized, or removed; suggested alternative language and solutions for specific Guidelines and issues, and developed criteria for incorporating the new HEA data collection requirements in the process in the review process.

Discussion:

On May 8, 2013 the NCFMEA met (via telecom) to adopt the draft Guidelines. Chairman Martin Crane called the meeting to order at approximately 1:30 p.m. eastern time.

Roll call was taken. NCFMEA members in attendance for all or part of the meeting included Martin Crane (Chair), Radheshyam Agrawal, Lynn Eckhert, James Hallock, David Munoz, Deborah Powell, Andrea Reid, and Krishnan Subrahmanian. U.S. Department of Education personnel who also participated in the meeting included: Committee Executive Director Carol Griffiths, and Program and Management Analyst staff member, Patricia Howes.

Committee Action:

James Hallock made a motion to adopt the draft Guidelines as revised. The motion was seconded by David Munoz. With no further questions or amendments, the Committee voted to adopt the draft Guidelines. The motion passed by unanimous vote in favor of adopting the Guidelines (8-0).

Chairman Martin Crane adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m. eastern time.