



THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20202

December 5, 2019

Honorable Robert Plaga
Minister of Education, Youth, and Sports
Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports
Karmelitska 529/5
118 12 Praha 1
Czechia 11812

Dear Dr. Plaga:

On September 27, 2019, the National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA) met to evaluate the documents submitted by the Government of Czechia describing the current standards and processes used to accredit medical schools in your country.

The purpose of the NCFMEA's review was to determine the comparability of accreditation standards and processes applied to medical schools in Czechia, to the system used to accredit medical schools in the United States (U.S.). Under U.S. law, accredited medical schools in a country that NCFMEA deems comparable may apply to participate in the U.S. William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) program. Then, if a medical school participates in the Direct Loan program, U.S. students attending the school may apply for Direct Loans to help cover educational expenses. For more information about foreign schools' participation in the Direct Loan program, access the Foreign School Information Web page at: <http://ifap.ed.gov/ForeignSchoolInfo/ForeignSchoolInfo.html>.

The NCFMEA determined that the standards and processes used by the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports and the Accreditation Commission to accredit medical schools in Czechia are comparable to those used to accredit medical schools in the United States. The NCFMEA further required an update report from the country in two years on its accreditation activities.

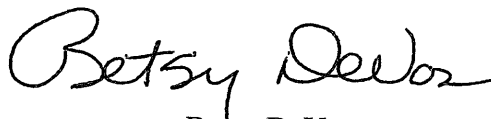
The NCFMEA wishes to thank Michal Zima, National Accreditation Bureau for Higher Education in Czechia, for attending the meeting to provide additional information regarding Czechia and the Ministry's accreditation process. His testimony was very helpful, and the Committee valued his participation in the meeting.

The U.S. Department of Education will contact the Government of Czechia before the fall 2021 NCFMEA meeting regarding the preparation and submission of the material.

If you have any questions about the meeting, please contact Jennifer Hong, NCFMEA Executive Director, at jennifer.hong@ed.gov.

Thank you for providing the information regarding the country's accreditation of medical schools. We appreciate your ongoing interest in maintaining high-quality standards for medical education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betsy DeVos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Betsy DeVos

cc: U.S. Department of State, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, Czechia Desk
Officer