



Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges

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Dear ACCSC Member Schools:

The U.S. Department of Education (“the Department”) has established the Accreditation, Innovation, & Modernization (“AIM”) Negotiated Rulemaking Committee which will begin its work next week. The AIM rulemaking is an effort by the U.S. Department of Education to enact changes to federal regulations for the recognition of accrediting agencies and how those agencies go about assessing quality assurance in higher education. Negotiated rulemaking brings together a committee of stakeholders—such as accreditors, institutions, students, and policymakers—to discuss and attempt to reach agreement on regulatory changes before they are formally proposed. As you may know, I have been selected to serve as the Primary negotiator for the accreditation community in the AIM negotiated rulemaking process and it is my intent to work collaboratively with other members of the committee in an effort to serve the best interests of accreditors, the Department, taxpayers, and students.

You can review the [list of negotiators](#), [summary of proposed changes](#), and the [draft regulations](#) at these links. Additional materials can be found on the Department’s website ([www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)). These changes have an impact on institutions because changing requirements and expectations for accreditors will likely translate to changes in standards for institutions, such as expectations for assessing student learning and student achievement outcomes.

It is important that you stay informed and abreast of changes as they may be proposed and promulgated either by the Department or ACCSC. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me directly at [mccomis@accsc.org](mailto:mccomis@accsc.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Michale S. McComis'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Michale' being the most prominent.

Michale S. McComis, Ed.D.

Executive Director