



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

March 10, 2016

Rabbi Alex Lowinger
Executive Director
Association of Institutions of Jewish Studies
500 West Kennedy Boulevard
Lakewood, NJ 08701

Dear Rabbi Lowinger:

I am writing to inform you of my decision on the grant of initial recognition of the Association of Institutions of Jewish Studies (AIJS). U.S. Department of Education 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 (HEA), and pursuant to relevant statutory and regulatory provisions.

Both the staff and the NACIQI recommended that I recognize AIJS for five years.

I am satisfied that accreditation by AIJS is a required element in enabling the institutions the agency accredits to establish eligibility to participate in programs administered by the U.S. Department of Education under the HEA, and I concur with the recommendations of Department staff and of the NACIQI. Accordingly, I grant initial recognition of the AIJS as a nationally recognized accrediting agency with the scope of recognition as detailed below for five years from the date of this letter.

Scope of recognition: The accreditation of postsecondary institutions of Jewish Studies within the United States exclusively offering educational programs leading to a certificate, associate degree, baccalaureate degree or their equivalent credential in Jewish Studies or Classical Torah Studies

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lynn B. Mahaffie".

Lynn B. Mahaffie
Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Policy, Planning, and Innovation
Delegated the Duties of Assistant Secretary
for Postsecondary Education

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