

ACICS UPDATE

On March 23, 2018, a United States District Court for the District of Columbia issued an order in *Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools v. DeVos*, Civil Action No. 16-244. Specifically, the Court remanded to Education Secretary DeVos the December 12, 2016 decision for further proceedings. That decision withdrew the Education Department's recognition of the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS).

On April 3, 2018, as a result of the district court's remand, Secretary DeVos restored ACICS's status as a federally recognized accrediting agency as of December 12, 2016. ACICS will remain in recognized status until such time as the Secretary reaches a final decision on the petition that ACICS submitted to the Department in January 2016. In her final decision, the Secretary will grant full recognition, deny recognition, or allow continued recognition for a period of up to 12 months for ACICS to demonstrate compliance with any criteria for which the Secretary finds that ACICS is not in compliance.

Here are links to detailed information regarding the above from the Department:

- <https://www.ed.gov/acics>
- [U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia Memorandum Opinion: https://ecf.dcd.uscourts.gov/cgi-bin/show_public_doc?2016cv2448-76](https://ecf.dcd.uscourts.gov/cgi-bin/show_public_doc?2016cv2448-76)
- [Press Release—Following Court Ruling, DeVos Orders Further Review of 2016 ACICS Petition: https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/following-court-ruling-devos-orders-further-review-2016-acics-petition](https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/following-court-ruling-devos-orders-further-review-2016-acics-petition)
[Order from Secretary Betsy DeVos: https://www2.ed.gov/documents/press-releases/acics-docketno-16-44-0.pdf](https://www2.ed.gov/documents/press-releases/acics-docketno-16-44-0.pdf)