



### **Title IV Eligibility for Undergraduate and Graduate Degree Programs (BSGM, MSIM, MSCT)**

On August 19, 2022, the Deputy Secretary of Education, as delegated by the Secretary, issued a final decision on the appeal of the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) regarding its status as a recognized accrediting agency by the U.S. Department of Education. Deputy Secretary Marten has upheld the decision by the Senior Department Official (SDO) to terminate ACICS as a nationally recognized accrediting agency.

While the Department does not determine whether an individual institution will receive approval by an accrediting agency, it does determine which agencies are recognized to accredit schools that participate in federal financial aid programs. The Department reviews accrediting agencies periodically to ensure they are holding up their obligations to recognize the quality of an institution.

What does this mean for prospective students enrolling in undergraduate and master's programs? New enrollees in these programs will not be eligible to apply for federal financial aid (e.g., Federal direct subsidized, unsubsidized loans, Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant) at SDGKU. Prospective students are welcome to enroll in any of our programs but must select another payment method other than federal financial aid. If you would like more information regarding this matter, please visit the following website to the Department of Education (<https://www.ed.gov/acics>), or don't hesitate to reach out to our admissions department at (619) 934-0797.

Although the Department of Education gave the institutions accredited by ACICS 18 months to find a new accreditor; San Diego Global Knowledge University has been proactive and is working diligently in being accredited by a new accrediting agency for current and new prospective students to have a seamless transition. Federal financial aid will be re-instated for the undergraduate and graduate programs once the new accrediting agency approves SDGKU.

Sincerely,

Dr. Miguel A. Cardenas  
**President**