



July 21, 2010

Dr. Sherry Allison, President
Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI)
P.O. Box 10146
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87184

Dear Dr. Allison:

Thank you for the opportunity to visit your campus last week. It is evident that you and your leadership team are working hard to address the concerns articulated by the Higher Learning Commission.

It is our understanding that the "candidacy" status imposed on SIPI was used to signal the institution of the urgency to fix certain situations, but not to jeopardize the school's eligibility to act as an accredited institution. Therefore, the school may continue to act as an accredited institution so long as it repairs the items of concern. For this reason, the school will continue to receive state funds for financial aid. However, if the school does not meet the requirements imposed, it will become ineligible for the state funds listed below, as each of them requires that the funds be spent at an accredited institution:

- 1) College Affordability Act (21-21L03 NMSA 1978)
- 2) New Mexico Work Study Scholarship (21-21B-1 NMSA)
- 3) Student Incentive Grant (see implementation by rule at 5.7.8.10 NMAC)
- 4) Student Choice Act (Section 21-21C-1 NMSA 1978)
- 5) NM Scholars Act (Section 21-21H-3 NMSA 1978)
- 6) Graduate Scholarship Act (Section 21-21G-1 NMSA 1978)
- 7) Post-secondary Articulation Act (Dual credit) (Section 21-1B-1 NMSA 1978)
- 8) Allied Health Student Loan for Service Act (Section 21-22C-1 NMSA 1978)-
- 9) Teacher Loan-for-Service Act (Section 21-22E-3 NMSA 1978)

If additional information is needed, please do not hesitate to contact me at 505.476.8404.

Sincerely,

Dr. Viola E. Florez
Secretary of Higher Education