

Archive of Accreditation Actions - July 28, 2014

July 28, 2014

At its June 25-28, 2014 Annual meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education took the following actions: **NOTE: The date behind the names of the programs below is the next currently scheduled full evaluation visit.**

1. Preaccreditation Actions

Classification of "Preliminary Approval" continued following a full evaluation visit:

- MCPHS University (formerly known as Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences) School of Optometry **Professional Optometric Degree Program (2015);**

2. Initial Accreditation

Classification of "Accredited" granted to the following programs following a full evaluation visit:

- Bright Eyes Vision Clinic **Residency in Pediatrics and Vision Therapy Rehabilitation**, which is affiliated with Pacific University College of Optometry (2022);
- Georgia Eye Partners **Residency in Refractive and Ocular Surgery/Ocular Disease**, which is affiliated with Southern College of Optometry (2022);
- Greenville VA Outpatient Clinic **Residency in Primary Care Optometry**, which is affiliated with Southern College of Optometry (2022);
- Sierra Vista CBOC **Residency in Ocular Disease**, which is affiliated with Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University (2022);
- Vision Northwest **Residency in Vision Therapy and Rehabilitation**, which is affiliated with Pacific University College of Optometry (2022);

3. Continuing Accreditation

Classification of "Accredited" continued following a full evaluation visit:

- Jesse Brown VAMC Chicago/Hines VAH **Residency in Ocular Disease/Low Vision Rehabilitation**, which is affiliated with Illinois College of Optometry (2022);
- John D. Dingell VAMC Health Care System **Residency in Primary Care and Ocular Disease**, which is affiliated with Ferris State University Michigan College of Optometry (2022);
- Manchester VAMC **Residency in Ocular Disease**, which is affiliated with New England College of Optometry (2022);
- Sepulveda VA Ambulatory Care Center **Residency in Primary Eye Care/Geriatric Optometry**, which is affiliated with Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University (2022);
- Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University **Professional Optometric Degree Program (2022);**
- University of Alabama at Birmingham, School of Optometry **Residency in Pediatric Optometry (2022);**

- University of Houston College of Optometry **Professional Optometric Degree Program** (2022);
- University of Houston College of Optometry **Residency in Cornea and Contact Lens** (2022);
- University of Houston College of Optometry **Residency in Family Practice Optometry** (2022);
- University of Houston College of Optometry **Residency in Pediatric Optometry** (2022);
- VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System **Residency in Hospital-Based Optometry**, which is affiliated with University of California, Berkeley, School of Optometry (2022);
- VAMC Wilmington Delaware **Residency in Ocular Disease**, which is affiliated with Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University (2022);
- Wilkes-Barre VAMC **Residency in Ocular Disease**, which is affiliated with Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University (2022);

Classification of "Accredited With Conditions"* granted following a full evaluation visit:

- Bowersox Vision Center, PSC **Residency in Vision Therapy and Pediatrics**, which is affiliated with Southern College of Optometry (2015);
- University of the Incarnate Word Rosenberg School of Optometry **Residency in Primary Care Optometry** (2015);

4. Reconsideration of Accreditation Denial

- None

5. Withdrawal of accreditation by ACOE

- None

6. Voluntary withdrawal from accreditation

- None

* A decision to grant the category of *accredited with conditions* is not final until the ACOE appeals process has been exhausted, or until 30 days from notification of the action to grant *accredited with conditions*.

Note: In addition to the above accreditation actions, the ACOE also reviewed the following program(s) applying for the initial application as a professional optometric degree program. (Stage One Applicant and Stage Two Applicant are not official pre-accreditation classifications, but rather steps toward pre-accreditation.)

- Designated Emory & Henry College School of Optometry **professional optometric degree program** in Grundy, VA as a Stage One Applicant

Definitions

Pre-Accreditation Classification

In the case of a program which is not fully operational, the Council may grant the pre-accreditation status of preliminary approval following satisfaction by the program of the requirements for initial application in Chapter 4 and the Council's review of an evaluation team report following a site visit:

Preliminary Approval — A pre-accreditation classification granted to a professional optometric degree program that has clearly demonstrated it is developing in accordance with Council standards. The program has approval to begin student recruitment, selection and admissions, and to begin offering the program. The Council shall review the preliminary approval classification annually during the first three academic years of the program through written reports and/or site visits as deemed necessary by the Council. A request for accreditation status shall be made not less than 12 months prior to graduation of the program's first class. As required by the USDE, the Council will not grant pre-accreditation status to a program for longer than five years.

When the Council awards preliminary approval to a program or at any time during the Council's monitoring of a program holding preliminary approval status, the ACOE may issue recommendations or specify conditions for monitoring, which must be attained in order to maintain the pre-accreditation status.

Accreditation Status

The Accreditation Council on Optometric Education may decide to grant one of the two following accreditation statuses to a program following adoption of the evaluation team report and recommendations. Accreditation status may be lowered or revoked if the Council determines that the program is not making sufficient progress on recommendations from the Council.

Accredited — A classification granted to an educational program indicating that the program generally meets the standards for accreditation. This classification indicates that the program has no deficiencies or weaknesses that compromise the educational effectiveness of the total program. However, recommendations relating to marginal compliance with certain standards, and suggestions relating to program enhancement may be included in evaluation reports.

Accredited with Condition — A classification granted to an educational program with major deficiencies or weaknesses with reference to the standards of accreditation. This classification indicates that the educational effectiveness of the program is in jeopardy. Programs with this classification will be required to submit progress reports and shall undergo a full on-site evaluation visit within a prescribed period of: one year for programs that are less than one year in length; 18 months for programs that are at least one year in length but less than two years in length; and two years for programs that are more than two years in length.