

Archive of Accreditation Actions - November 18, 2014

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At its October 17-19, 2014 Fall meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, 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.**

[Definitions of pre-accreditation classification and accreditation status](#)

1. Preaccreditation Actions

- None

2. Initial Accreditation

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

- Omni Eye Specialists **Residency in Ocular Disease and Refractive and Ocular Surgery**, which is affiliated with University of Houston College of Optometry (2022);

3. Continuing Accreditation

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

- Better Vision Ahead Advanced Eyecare (formerly known as BVA Advanced Surgical Eyecare) **Residency in Refractive and Ocular Surgery/Ocular Disease**, which is affiliated with Northeastern State University, Oklahoma College of Optometry (2022);
- Keller Army Community Hospital **Residency in Family Practice Optometry**, which is affiliated with State University of New York, State College of Optometry (2022);
- San Diego Healthcare System La Jolla Medical Center **Residency in Primary Care Optometry - Department of Veterans Affairs**, which is affiliated with Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University (2022);
- VA Hudson Valley Health Care System **Residency in Ocular Disease and Primary Care Optometry**, which is affiliated with State University of New York, State College of Optometry (2022);

Classification of "Accredited with Conditions" raised to "Accredited" following submission of satisfactory progress report:

- Bowersox Vision Center, PSC **Residency in Vision Therapy and Pediatrics**, which is affiliated with Southern College of Optometry (2022);
- University of the Incarnate Word Rosenberg School of Optometry **Residency in Primary Care Optometry** (2022);

4. Reconsideration of Accreditation Denial

- None

5. Withdrawal of accreditation by ACOE ·

- None

6. Voluntary withdrawal of accreditation ·

- None

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.