

## Archive of Accreditation Actions - December 1, 2015

Consistent with ACOE policy, the ACOE publishes the following information about accreditation and pre-accreditation decisions:

- the type of program (professional optometric degree, optometric residency, or optometric technician);
- the program's sponsor, and in the case of an optometric residency not sponsored by a school or college of optometry, the name of the affiliated optometric institution;
- accreditation status or action;
- the year of the next currently scheduled site visit; and
- the Council's summary of compliance with the standards, which specifies the Council's basis for any final decision. Updates to the summary of compliance will be published in subsequent reports of ACOE meeting actions when the ACOE determines that the standards are met.

December 1, 2015

At its October 30-November 1, 2015 Fall meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education took the following actions: (Note: Date in parenthesis is the date of the next currently scheduled evaluation visit to the programs. Depending on the outcomes of annual reports, progress reports, interim visits, substantive program changes and other significant events affecting a program, the Council may decide to schedule a full on-site evaluation visit before the original accreditation period is complete. The accreditation period is eight years for professional optometric degree and optometric residency programs and seven years for optometric technician programs.)

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

#### 1. Preaccreditation Actions

##### Classification of "Preliminary Approval" granted following a full evaluation visit:

**University of Pikeville Kentucky College of Optometry Professional Optometric Degree Program (2017).** The Council granted the status of preliminary approval. The program has approval to begin student recruitment, selection and admissions, and to begin offering the program. The ACOE will conduct a site visit in **2017** (if the first class is enrolled in 2016) . The program was issued recommendations to meet Standards IV and VIII following a site visit in 2015 and based on a subsequent progress report submitted by the program, the Council found the recommendations to be met. The program now fully meets the eight standards for professional optometric degree programs seeking preliminary approval status.

## **2. Initial Accreditation granted to the following program following a full evaluation visit:**

**SouthEast Eye Specialists Residency in Ocular Disease**, which is affiliated with Southern College of Optometry (2023). The program was granted the status of **Accredited**, based on the Council's determination that the program has no deficiencies or weaknesses that compromise the educational effectiveness of the total program. The program was issued recommendations to meet Standards I, II, III and V following a site visit in 2015 and based on subsequent progress and annual reports submitted by the program, the Council found the recommendations to be met. The program now meets the six standards for optometric residency standards.

## **3. Continuing Accreditation**

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

**East New York Diagnostic & Treatment Center Residency in Family Practice/Ocular Disease Optometry**, which is affiliated with State University of New York, College of Optometry (2023). The program's status of **Accredited** was continued, based on the Council's determination that the program has no deficiencies or weaknesses that compromise the educational effectiveness of the total program. The program fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

**Group Health Cooperative Seattle Residency in Primary Eye Care**, which is affiliated with Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University (2023). The program's status of **Accredited** was continued, based on the Council's determination that the program has no deficiencies or weaknesses that compromise the educational effectiveness of the total program. The program fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

**Pacific University College of Optometry Residency in Cornea and Contact Lens** (2023). The program's status of **Accredited** was continued, based on the Council's determination that the program has no deficiencies or weaknesses that compromise the educational effectiveness of the total program. The program fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

**Southern Eye Associates Residency in Ocular Disease**, which is affiliated with Southern College of Optometry (2023). The program's status of **Accredited** was continued, based on the Council's determination that the program has no deficiencies or weaknesses that compromise the educational effectiveness of the total program. The program fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

**State University of New York, College of Optometry Residency in Ocular Disease** (2023). The program's status of **Accredited** was continued, based on the Council's determination that the program has no deficiencies or weaknesses that compromise the educational effectiveness of the total program. The program fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

**VA Boston Healthcare System, West Roxbury Residency in Ocular Disease/Primary Eye Care- Department of Veterans Affairs**, which is affiliated with New England College of Optometry (2023). The program's status of **Accredited** was continued, based on the Council's determination that the program has no deficiencies or weaknesses that compromise the educational effectiveness of the total program. The program was issued recommendations to meet Standards III and V following a site visit in 2015 and based on a subsequent progress report submitted by the program, the Council found the recommendations to be met. The program now fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

#### **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 Conditions--** 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 which are less than one year in length; 18 months for programs which are at least one year in length but less than two years in length; and two years for programs which are more than two years in length.