

Archive of Accreditation Actions - July 23, 2018

Consistent with Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (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.

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

July 23, 2018

At its June 20-23, 2018, meeting in Denver, Colorado, the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) 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.)

1. Preaccreditation Actions

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

Midwestern University Chicago College of Optometry Professional Optometric Degree Program (2019). The program's pre-accreditation classification of **Preliminary Approval** was continued, based on the Council's determination that the program has demonstrated it is developing in accordance with Council standards. The program was issued recommendations to meet Standards II and VIII following a site visit in 2018 and based on the results of a site visit conducted in 2019, the Council found the recommendations to be met and the program continues to demonstrate it is developing in accordance with Council standards. The Council will

conduct a site visit in **2019**.

University of Pikeville Kentucky College of Optometry Professional Optometric Degree Program (2019). The program's pre-accreditation classification of **Preliminary Approval** was continued based on the Council's determination that the program has demonstrated it is developing in accordance with Council standards. The Council will conduct a site visit in **2019**.

2. Initial Accreditation

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

Arkansas Vision Development Center Residency in Vision Therapy and Rehabilitation and Pediatric Optometry which is affiliated with University of the Incarnate Word Rosenberg School of Optometry (2026). 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 III and V following a site visit in 2018 and based upon 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.

Atlantic Eye Physicians Residency in Ocular Disease which is affiliated with State University of New York College of Optometry (2026). 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 a recommendation to meet Standard III following a site visit in 2018 and based on a subsequent progress report submitted by the program, the Council found the recommendation to be met. The program now fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

Cherry Health, Heart of the City Health Center Residency in Community Health and Primary Care which is affiliated with Ferris State University Michigan College of Optometry (2026). 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 a recommendation to meet Standard V following a site visit in 2018 and based on a subsequent progress report submitted by the program, the Council has determined that the recommendation has been met. The program now fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

Eyecare Associates, P.C. Residency in Vision Therapy and Rehabilitation which is affiliated with State University of New York College of Optometry (2026). 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 a recommendation to meet Standard III following a 2018 site visit and based on a progress report submitted by the program, the Council found the recommendation to be met. The program now fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

Eye Care Associates of Nevada Residency in Ocular Disease/Refractive and Ocular Surgery which is affiliated with Pacific University, College of Optometry (2026). 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 fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

Fort Defiance Indian Hospital Board, Inc. Residency in Primary Eye Care/Ocular Disease which is affiliated with Midwestern University Arizona College of Optometry (2026). 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 fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

Newsom Eye Residency in Ocular Disease and Ocular/Refractive Surgery which is affiliated with Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University (2026). 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 Standard V following a site visit in 2018 and based on a subsequent progress report submitted by the program, the Council found the recommendation to be met. The program now fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

University of Houston, College of Optometry Residency in Ocular Disease at Community Eye Clinic Ft. Worth (2026). 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 fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

University of Waterloo School of Optometry & Vision Science Residency in Cornea and Contact Lens (2026). 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 and III following a site visit in 2018 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.

University of Waterloo School of Optometry & Vision Science Residency in Low Vision Rehabilitation (2026). 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 II, III and V following a site visit in 2018 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.

University of Waterloo School of Optometry & Vision Science Residency in Pediatric Optometry and Vision Therapy (2026). 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 II, III and V following a site visit in 2018 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.

University of Waterloo School of Optometry & Vision Science Residency in Ocular Disease-Glaucoma (2026). 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 III and IV following a site visit in 2018 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.

VA Portland HCS-Salem CBOC Residency in Primary Eye Care which is affiliated with Pacific University, College of Optometry (2026). 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 fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

Vance Thompson Vision Residency in Ocular Disease/Refractive and Ocular Surgery which is affiliated with Illinois College of Optometry (2026). 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 II and V following a site visit in 2018 and based on subsequent progress reports submitted by the program, the Council found the recommendations to be met. The program now fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

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

University of Virginia Ophthalmology Department Residency in Ocular Disease with Emphasis in Contact Lenses which is affiliated with Indiana University School of Optometry (2019). The program was granted the status of **Accredited with Conditions**, based on the

Council's determination that the program has major deficiencies or weaknesses with reference to the standards and indicates that the educational effectiveness of the program is in jeopardy. The program was issued recommendations to meet Standards I, II and V following a site visit in 2018 and based on subsequent progress reports submitted by the program, the Council found the recommendations to be met and that the program now fully meets the six standards for residency programs; the program's accreditation status was raised to "**Accredited**" with its next site visit scheduled for 2026.

3. Continuing Accreditation

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

Child and Family Optometry Residency in Pediatric Optometry/Vision Therapy and Rehabilitation which is affiliated with Southern College of Optometry (2026). 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, III and V following a site visit in 2018 and based on subsequent progress reports submitted by the program, the Council found the recommendations to be met. The program now fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

Dorn VAMC Residency in Primary Eye Care which is affiliated with Southern College of Optometry (2026). 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 a recommendation to meet Standard II following a site visit in 2018 and based on a subsequent progress report submitted by the program, the Council found the recommendation to be met. The program now fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

Family Eyecare Associates, P.C. Residency in Vision Therapy and Rehabilitation, which is affiliated with Southern College of Optometry (2026). 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 a recommendation to meet Standard V following a site visit in 2018 and based on a subsequent progress report submitted by the program, the Council found the recommendation to be met. The program now fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

Jack C. Montgomery VAMC Residency in Primary Eye Care and Ocular Disease which is affiliated with Northeastern State University, Oklahoma College of Optometry (2026). 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 fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

Miami VAMC Residency in Primary Eye Care with Emphasis in Ocular Disease which is affiliated with Nova Southeastern University, College of Optometry (2026). 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 fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

New York Harbor Health Care System Residency in Ocular Disease / Primary Eye Care Optometry which is affiliated with State University of New York College of Optometry (2026). 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 and V following a site visit in 2018 and based on subsequent progress reports submitted by the program, the Council found the recommendations to be met. The program now fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

Ochsner Medical Center Residency in Hospital-Based Primary Eye Care which is affiliated with Southern College of Optometry (2026). 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 II and V following a site visit in 2018 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.

Providence VAMC Residency in Primary Care/Ocular Disease which is affiliated with New England College of Optometry (2026). 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 fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

Southern College of Optometry Residency in Cornea/Contact Lens and Refractive Surgery (2026). 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 a recommendation to meet Standard V following a site visit in 2018 and based on a progress report submitted by the program, the Council found the recommendation to be met. The program now fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

Southern College of Optometry Residency in Pediatric and Visual Rehabilitation Optometry (2026). 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 fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

University of Alabama at Birmingham, School of Optometry Residency in Family Practice Optometry (2026). 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 fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

White River Junction, VT VAMC Residency in Primary Eye Care/Ocular Disease which is affiliated with New England College of Optometry (2026). 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 a recommendation to meet Standard V following a site visit in 2018 and based on a subsequent progress report submitted by the program, the Council found the recommendation to be met. The program now fully meets the six standards for residency programs.

Classification of "Accredited with Conditions" raised to "Accredited" following a full evaluation visit:

MCPHS University School of Optometry **Professional Optometric Degree Program** (Interim visit 2020; next currently scheduled full evaluation visit 2026). 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 II and VIII following a site visit in 2018 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.

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 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.