



# Middle States Commission on Higher Education

3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-2680. Tel: 267-284-5000. Fax: 215-662-5501  
www.msche.org

November 18, 2016

Dr. David A. Heath  
President  
SUNY College of Optometry  
33 West 42nd Street  
New York, NY 10036-8003

Dear Dr. Heath:

At its session on November 17, 2016, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education acted:

To accept the Periodic Review Report and to reaffirm accreditation. To commend the institution for the quality of the Periodic Review Report and the PRR process. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2020 - 2021.

This action is an affirming action, as explained in the policy *Accreditation Actions*, which is available on the Commission's website.

Enclosed is a copy of the institution's Statement of Accreditation Status (SAS) for your review. If any of the factual information is incorrect, please contact the Commission as soon as possible.

In accordance with the policy *Advertising, Student Recruitment, and Representation of Accredited Status*, the accreditation status of the institution must be accurately represented. Please ensure that published references to your institution's candidate status or accredited status (catalog, other publications, web page) are accurate and include the full name, address, and telephone number of the accrediting agency, and the effective date (month and year) when status was granted. Candidate for Accreditation is a status with the Commission that indicates that an institution has achieved membership and is progressing toward, but is not assured of, accreditation.

Please be assured of the continuing interest of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education in the well-being of SUNY College of Optometry. If any further clarification is needed regarding the SAS or other items in this letter, please feel free to contact Dr. Debra G. Klinman, Vice President.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'George A. Pruitt', written over a white background.

George A. Pruitt, Ph.D.  
Chair

c: Chancellor, State University of New York System Administration



**MIDDLE STATES COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION**  
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## STATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION STATUS

**SUNY COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY**  
33 West 42nd Street  
New York, NY 10036-8003  
Phone: (212) 938-4000; Fax: (212) 938-5699  
[www.sunyopt.edu](http://www.sunyopt.edu)

**Chief Executive Officer:** Dr. David A. Heath, President  
**System:** State University of New York System Administration  
Dr. Nancy L. Zimpher, Chancellor  
State University Plaza  
Albany, NY 12246  
Phone: (518) 320-1355; Fax: (518) 320-1560

### INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

**Enrollment (Headcount):** 379 Graduate  
**Control:** Public  
**Affiliation:** Government-State Systems - The State University of New York  
**2015 Carnegie Classification:** Special Focus Four-Year - Other Health Professions Schools  
**Approved Degree Levels:** Master's, Doctor's - Professional Practice, Doctor's - Research/Scholarship;  
**Distance Education Programs:** Not Approved  
**Accreditors Recognized by U.S. Secretary of Education:** American Optometric Association, Accreditation Council on Optometric Education

### Instructional Locations

**Branch Campuses:** None  
**Additional Locations:** None  
**Other Instructional Sites:** None

### ACCREDITATION INFORMATION

**Status:** Member since 1976  
**Last Reaffirmed:** November 17, 2016

### **Most Recent Commission Action:**

November 17, 2016: To accept the Periodic Review Report and to reaffirm accreditation. To commend the institution for the quality of the Periodic Review Report and the PRR process. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2020 - 2021.

### **Brief History Since Last Comprehensive Evaluation:**

June 23, 2011: To reaffirm accreditation and to commend the institution for the quality of the self-study report. The Periodic Review Report is due June 1, 2016.

**Next Self-Study Evaluation:** 2020 - 2021

**Date Printed:** November 18, 2016

## **DEFINITIONS**

**Branch Campus** - A location of an institution that is geographically apart and independent of the main campus of the institution. The location is independent if the location: offers courses in educational programs leading to a degree, certificate, or other recognized educational credential; has its own faculty and administrative or supervisory organization; and has its own budgetary and hiring authority.

**Additional Location** - A location, other than a branch campus, that is geographically apart from the main campus and at which the institution offers at least 50 percent of an educational program. **ANYA** ("Approved but Not Yet Active") indicates that the location is included within the scope of accreditation but has not yet begun to offer courses. This designation is removed after the Commission receives notification that courses have begun at this location.

**Other Instructional Sites** - A location, other than a branch campus or additional location, at which the institution offers one or more courses for credit.

**Distance Education Programs** - Fully Approved, Approved (one program approved) or Not Approved indicates whether or not the institution has been approved to offer diploma/certificate/degree programs via distance education (programs for which students could meet 50% or more of the requirements of the program by taking distance education courses). Per the Commission's Substantive Change policy, Commission approval of the first two Distance Education programs is required to be "Fully Approved." If only one program is approved by the Commission, the specific name of the program will be listed in parentheses after "Approved."

Commission actions are explained in the policy *Accreditation Actions*.