

**Accreditation Council on
Optometric Education**



American Optometric Association

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June 15, 2011

David Heath, O.D., Ed.M., President
State University of New York, State College of Optometry
33 W 42nd St.
New York, NY 10036-8003

Dear Dr. Heath:

At its June 15-18, 2011 Annual Meeting, the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education considered the report of the ACOE and Middle States Association Commission on Higher Education collaborative team which visited the professional optometric degree program at the State University of New York State College of Optometry on April 10-13, 2011. The Council voted to accept the report; to adopt the ACOE summary, suggestions for program enhancement attached to the report, and the summary statement of compliance with the standards; and to continue the classification of "Accredited." The classification of "Accredited" indicates that the program generally meets the ACOE standards for accreditation. The Council finds the program to be in compliance with all of the ACOE standards.

Council policies indicate that professional optometric degree programs must be evaluated through an on-site visit at least once every eight years, and all programs are reviewed annually through the annual report process. Currently the next scheduled evaluation visit for the State University of New York, State College of Optometry is in April, 2019.

The accreditation is measured from the date of the most recent evaluation visit. Professional optometric degree programs should avoid using such phrases as "accreditation has been continued for an eight-year period." Accreditation by the ACOE is not necessarily for a specific period of time since it is subject to a continual review. Depending on the outcomes of annual reports, progress reports, interim visits, substantive program changes and other events affecting a program, the Council may decide to schedule a full on-site evaluation before the original eight-year accreditation period is complete.

The program must submit its next annual report on May 1, 2012 (as described on pages 39 of the enclosed ***Accreditation Manual: Professional Optometric Degree Programs***). The enclosed manual also includes information on ACOE's policies and procedures, including, but not limited to, information on monitoring accredited programs (page 39), appeal of accreditation decision (page 36), information on the Council's mission (page 2) and the standards of accreditation (Chapter 2). The Council welcomes any input on its policies, procedures and standards, and invites you to contact us at our St. Louis office address with any questions, concerns or suggestions. We also invite you to visit the ACOE web site at www.theacoe.org.

Sincerely,

J. Bart Campbell, O.D.
ACOE Chair

Enclosure

cc: Evaluation Team, ACOE