



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY

August 22, 2018

Joyce L. Urbeck, Director  
Accreditation Council on Optometric Education  
America Optometric Association  
243 North Lindbergh Boulevard, Floor 1  
St. Louis, Missouri 63141

Dear Ms. Urbeck:

I am writing to inform you of my decision on the renewal of recognition of the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE). U.S. Department of Education (Department) staff and the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) have each made recommendations to me. These recommendations were made under Sections 114 and 496 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, and pursuant to relevant statutory and regulatory provisions.

Both the Department staff and the NACIQI recommended that I grant ACOE renewed federal recognition for a period of five years. I concur with the recommendations of the Department staff and of the NACIQI. Accordingly, I grant renewed recognition to ACOE for a period of five years.

Scope of Recognition: The accreditation in the United States of professional optometric degree programs and optometric residency programs, and for the preaccreditation category of Preliminary Approval for professional optometric degree programs.

Please convey my best wishes to the members of the ACOE. We appreciate their work to improve the quality and success of U.S. postsecondary education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Diane Auer Jones".

Diane Auer Jones  
Principal Deputy Under Secretary  
Delegated to Perform the Duties of Under Secretary  
U.S. Department of Education

400 MARYLAND AVE., S.W., WASHINGTON, DC 20202  
[www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)

*The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.*