

Commission on Opticianry Accreditation Strategic Plan 2023

Mission: The mission of the Commission on Opticianry Accreditation is to foster excellence and innovation in opticianry education by setting standards, assessing educational effectiveness, and identifying those academic programs that meet and exceed the standards, in order to aid programs to produce competent graduates who will provide professional services to the public.

Vision: Excellence in Opticianry Education

Objectives:

- Work to increase the number of programs accredited by the COA.
 - Increase awareness of the COA through interactions with external groups important to the field of opticianry.
 - Communication strategy
 - Interact with Program Directors of non-accredited programs of opticianry to describe the benefits of accreditation.
 - Interact with national/state associations to promote the benefits to the entire field of accreditation of programs of opticianry.
 - Conduct periodic Evaluators workshops to increase pool of potential evaluators.
- Strengthen and modify accreditation guidelines/standards appropriately to reflect the current field and practice of opticianry.
 - Perform a biennial review and update of COA guidelines/standards.
 - The Essentials will be reviewed in two years.
 - The By-Laws will be reviewed in two years.
 - Review and update the Self Study and Evaluators checklist to be approved at Spring 2024 meeting.
 - Look at possible updates to the way the website functions and document are accessed.
 - Opticianry programs will have the opportunity to provide the necessary feedback to improve the COA guidelines/standards.
- Ensure financial stability for the COA.
 - Continue to review Annual Fee structure.
 - Annual accreditation fees increase will be reviewed Fall 2024.
 - Explore possibilities for additional revenues including grant opportunities.
 - Ask appoint associations for possible grants available.
- CHEA continued recognition 2022/2023
 - Work on follow up accreditation report
 - Director and Assistant Director are writing the follow up narrative
 - Continue working with CHEA for Continued Recognition 2024 and beyond