

# COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION

## RECOGNITION DECISION SUMMARY

### COMMISSION ON OPTICIANRY ACCREDITATION (COA)

In accordance with the [2019 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures](#), Paragraph 39, this summary describes the formal status of an accrediting organization in relation to recognition by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

#### **Profile of Accrediting Organization**

Type of Accreditor: Programmatic

Number of Programs: 21

#### **Current CHEA-Recognized Scope of Accreditation**

*The Commission on Opticianry Accreditation (COA) accredits two-year Opticianry degree programs in the United States that are sponsored by post-secondary institutions accredited by agencies recognized by the Department of Education or CHEA. (2019)*

#### **CHEA Recognition Information**

History: No prior recognition by CHEA

#### **Most Recent Recognition Action**

Date: CHEA Board of Directors Meeting, October 5, 2020

Decision: Extension of term of recognition from December 31, 2020 to June 30, 2021 assuring continuity of CHEA recognition to allow for completion of the recognition process.

#### **Summary of CHEA's Most Recent Recognition Review**

The CHEA Committee on Recognition and the Board of Directors reviewed the Commission on Opticianry Accreditation (COA). The review was based on the six CHEA recognition standards that require an accrediting organization to show that its accreditation process advances academic quality, demonstrates accountability, encourages self-scrutiny and planning, employs fair and appropriate procedures and demonstrates ongoing review of practice, and that it possesses sufficient resources to carry out its accreditation processes (*2006 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures*, Paragraphs 12A-12F, pp. 5-8).

COA demonstrated that it meets these standards and that its accreditation process is consistent with the quality, improvement and accountability expectations that CHEA has established.

The CHEA recognition policy requires that an accrediting organization undergo a recognition review least every 10 years and submit two interim reports.