



Presidents of the American Optometric Association, 1898-2025

Since its inception in 1898 as the American Association of Opticians, the American Optometric Association has been lead by dynamic and innovative individuals. The following is a list of past presidents.

Name	Term	Number	State Affiliation	Elected
Reed, Steven T.	2024-2025	104	Mississippi	127th Congress , June 20-22, 2024, Nashville Music City Center, Nashville, TN
Benner, Ronald L.	2023-2024	103	Montana	126th Congress , June 22-24, 2023, Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC
Layman, Robert C.	2022-2023	102	Ohio	
DeVleming, James P.	2022	101	Washington	125th Congress , June 15-18, 2022, McCormick Place Convention Center, Chicago, IL
Layman, Robert C.	2021-2022	100	Ohio	124th Congress , June 24-26, 2021, Denver Convention Center, Denver, CO
Reynolds, William T.	2020-2021	99	Kentucky	123rd Congress , June 27, 2020, Richmond, KY (Virtual)
Horn, Barbara L.	2019-2020	98	South Carolina	122nd Congress , June 19-23, 2019, St. Louis Convention Center, St. Louis, MO
Pierce, Samuel D.	2018-2019	97	Alabama	121st Congress , June 20-24, 2018, Denver Convention Center, Denver, CO
Quinn, Christopher J.	2017-2018	96	New Jersey	120th Congress , June 21-25, 2017, Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC
Thau, Andrea P.	2016-2017	95	New York	119th Congress , June 29-July 2, 2016, Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, Boston, MA

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Loomis, Steven A.	2015-2016	94	Colorado	118th Congress , June 24-28, 2015. Washington State Convention Center, Seattle, WA
Cockrell, David A.	2014-2015	93	Oklahoma	117th Congress , June 25-29, 2014. Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA
Munson, Mitchell T.	2013-2014	92	Colorado	116th Congress , June 26-30, 2013, San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA
Hopping, Ronald L.	2012-2013	91	Texas	115th Congress , June 27- July 1, 2012, Hilton/Palmer House &McCormick Place Convention Center, Chicago, IL
Carlson, Dori M.	2011-2012	90	North Dakota	114th Congress , June 15-19, 2011, Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, UT
Ellis, Joe E.	2010-2011	89	Kentucky	113th Congress , June 16-20, 2010, Gaylord Palms Resort &Convention Center, Orlando, FL
Brooks, Randolph E.	2009-2010	88	New Jersey	112th Congress , June 24-28, 2009, Gaylord National Resort &Convention Center, Washington, D.C.
Kehoe, Peter H.	2008-2009	87	Illinois	111th Congress , June 25-29, 2008, Washington State Convention and Trade Center, Seattle, WA
Alexander, Kevin L.	2007-2008	86	Michigan	110th Congress , June 27-July 1, 2007, Hynes Convention Center, Boston, MA
Crooks, C. Thomas, III	2006-2007	85	Alabama	109th Congress , June 21-25, 2006, Mandalay Bay Resort, Las Vegas, NV
Wallingford, Richard L., Jr.*	2005-2006	84	Maine	108th Congress , June 22-26, 2005, Gaylord Texan Resort, Dallas, TX
Pittman, Wesley E.	2004-2005	83	Texas	107th Congress , June 23-27, 2004, Gaylord Palms Resort, Orlando, FL
Connors, Victor J.*	2003-2004	82	Wisconsin	106th Congress , June 18-22, 2003, San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA

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Cummings, J. Pat*	2002-2003	81	Wyoming	105th Congress , June 26-30, 2002, Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, LA
Nelson, David W.	2001-2002	80	Wisconsin	104th Congress , June 27-July 1, 2001, Hynes Convention Center, Boston, MA
Braverman, Howard J.	2000-2001	79	Florida	103rd Congress , June 22-24, 2000, Venetian Resort Hotel Casino, Las Vegas, NV
Hanlen, Harvey P.	1999-2000	78	Pennsylvania	102nd Congress , June 24-26, 1999, Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, San Antonio, TX
McCall, John A., Jr.	1998-1999	77	Texas	101st Congress , June 24-28, 1998, Walt Disney World, Dolphin Hotel, Orlando, FL
Jones, Michael D.	1997-1998	76	Tennessee	100th Congress , June 11-15, 1997, America's Center, St. Louis, MO
Byars, T. Joel	1996-1997	75	Georgia	99th Congress , June 21-25, 1996, Portland Hilton, Portland, OR
Jarnagin, Donald E.*	1995-1996	74	Arizona	98th Congress , June 23-27, 1995, Nashville Convention Center, Nashville, TN
DeCook, Larry D.*	1994-1995	73	Iowa	97th Congress , June 24-28, 1994, Minneapolis Convention Center, Minneapolis, MN
Houghton, Daniel, Jr.*	1993-1994	72	Florida	96th Congress , June 18-22, 1993, Anaheim Marriott Hotel, Anaheim, CA
Leadingham, James C.	1992-1993	71	Kentucky	95th Congress , June 20-23, 1992, Le Centre Sheraton, Montreal, Quebec, CANADA
Elliott, L. Edward	1991-1992	70	California	94th Congress , June 21-26, 1991, Loews Anatole Hotel, Dallas, TX
Gazaway, John A.	1990-1991	69	Iowa	93rd Congress , June 23-28, 1990, Hilton Hawaiian Village, Honolulu, HI

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Sullins, W. David, Jr.*	1989-1990	68	Tennessee	92nd Congress , June 24-29, 1989, New York Hilton and Towers, New York City, NY
Scholles, James R.	1988-1989	67	Ohio	91st Congress , June 25-30, 1988, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Chicago, IL
Tumblin, John D.*	1987-1988	66	Tennessee	90th Congress , July 5-9, 1987, Orlando World Center, Orlando, FL
Ferris, David W.	1986-1987	65	Rhode Island	89th Congress , June 23-26, 1986, Town & Country Hotel, San Diego, CA
Easton, Gerald J.*	1985-1986	64	California	88th Congress , June 23-28, 1985, Las Vegas Hilton, Las Vegas, NV
Bucar, Albert A.*	1984-1985	63	Illinois	87th Congress , June 16-20, 1984, Hilton Hawaiian, Honolulu, HI
Kime, Timothy Q.	1983-1984	62	Ohio	86th Congress , June 27-30, 1983, Sheraton Washington Hotel, Washington Room, Washington D.C.
Waldie, Wendell D.*	1982-1983	61	Kansas	85th Congress , June 20-25, 1982, John B. Hynes Veterans Auditorium, Boston, MA
Demmer, Harold F.*	1981-1982	60	Louisiana	84th Congress , June 22-27, 1981, Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, NV
Von Bokern, Jack W.	1980-1981	59	Minnesota	83rd Congress , June 27-July 1, 1980, Currigan Exhibition Hall, Denver, CO
Levin, Alvin*	1979-1980	58	Pennsylvania	82nd Congress , June 18-23, 1979, Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim, CA
Holmes, G. Burt	1978-1979	57	Massachusetts	81st Congress , July 4-8, 1978, Rivergate Convention Center, New Orleans, LA
McQuarrie, Charles W.*	1977-1978	56	California	80th Congress , July 5-9, 1977, Royal York Hotel, Toronto, Ontario, CANADA

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Fair, Ron G.	1976-1977	55	Colorado	79th Congress , June 22-26, 1976, Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, NV
Winton, Howard P.*	1975-1976	54	Florida	78th Congress , June 16-21, 1975, Arlington Hotel, Hot Springs, AR
Shannon, Bernard J.	1974-1975	53	Wisconsin	77th Congress , June 18-21, 1974, Sheraton-Park Hotel, Washington, D.C.
Day, Robert E.*	1973-1974	52	Texas	76th Congress , June 25-30, 1973, San Francisco Hilton, San Francisco, CA
Tumblin, James C.*	1972-1973	51	Tennessee	75th Congress , June 17-21, 1972, Sheraton-Jefferson Hotel, St. Louis, MO
Hopping, Richard L.	1971-1972	50	Ohio	74th Congress , June 22-26, 1971, Shamrock Hilton Hotel, Houston, TX
Hussey, Lester R.*	1970-1971	49	Washington	73rd Congress , June 28-July 4, 1970, Hawaiian Village Hotel, Honolulu, HI
Wolfberg, Melvin D.*	1969-1970	48	Pennsylvania	72nd Congress , July 9-12, 1969, Bellevue Stratford Hotel, Philadelphia, PA
Hofstetter, Henry W.*	1968-1969	47	Indiana	71st Congress , June 25-29, 1968, Hotel Fontainebleau, Miami Beach, FL
Sugg, John G.*	1967-1968	46	Arkansas	70th Congress , June 27-July 1, 1967, Portland Hilton Hotel, Portland, OR
Dunbar, Melvin B.*	1966-1967	45	New Hampshire	69th Congress , June 22-25, 1966, Boston Sheraton, Boston, MA
McCrary, V. Eugene*	1965-1966	44	Maryland	68th Congress , June 27-30, 1965, Jung Hotel, New Orleans, LA
Seger, Charles E.*	1964-1965	43	California	67th Congress , June 28-July 2, 1964, New York Hilton, New York, NY

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Chapman, W. Judd*	1963-1964	42	Florida	66th Congress , July 17-20, 1963, Leamington Hotel, Minneapolis, MN
Ewalt, H. Ward, Jr.*	1962-1963	41	Pennsylvania	65th Congress , July 18-21, 1962, Sheraton-Chicago Hotel, Chicago, IL
Frantz, Don A.*	1961-1962	40	Illinois	64th Congress , June 17-20, 1961, Denver Hilton Hotel, Denver, CO
Schiller, Richard C.*	1960-1961	39	Iowa	63rd Congress , June 26-29, 1960, Biltmore Hotel, Atlanta, GA
DeVere, P. N.*	1959-1960	38	North Carolina	62nd Congress , June 28-July 1, 1959, Statler Hilton Hotel, Dallas, TX
Purvis, Hoyt S.*	1958-1959	37	Arkansas	61st Congress , June 25-28, 1958, Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C.
Sugarman, Lester H.*	1957-1958	36	Connecticut	60th Congress , June 23-26, 1957, Statler Hotel, Los Angeles, CA
Flower, Rupert E.*	1956-1957	35	California	59th Congress , June 13-16, 1956, Seville Hotel, Miami Beach, FL
Hays, Norman B.*	1955-1956	34	New York	58th Congress , July 6-9, 1955, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee, WI
Brown, Samuel L.*	1954-1955	33	Ohio	57th Congress , June 20-23, 1954, Olympic Hotel, Seattle, WA
Wahl, James F.*	1952-1954	32	Illinois	55th Congress , June 9-11, 1952, Nautilus Hotel, Miami Beach, FL; 56th Congress , June 22-24, 1953, Seneca Hotel, Rochester, NY
White, J. Ottis*	1950-1952	31	Louisiana	53rd Congress , June 26-28, 1950, Hotel Radisson, Minneapolis, MN; 54th Congress , June 25-27, 1951, Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans, LA

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O'Shea, John B.*	1948-1950	30	Virginia	51st Congress , June 20-23, 1948, Palace Hotel, San Francisco, CA; 52nd Congress , June 26-29, 1949, Hotel Statler, Boston, MA
Richardson, Edmund F.*	1946-1948	29	California	49th Congress , July 7-10, 1946, William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA; 50th Congress , June 21-25, 1947, Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City, NJ
Ezell, William C.*	1944-1946	28	South Carolina	47th Congress , June 25-28, 1944, Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, MI; 48th Congress , June 24-26, 1945, Gibson Hotel, Cincinnati, OH
Adams, Ewing*	1942-1944	27	Michigan	45th Congress , June 21-24, 1942, Adolphus Hotel, Dallas, TX; 46th Congress , July 11-14, 1943, Hotel Morrison, Chicago, IL
Corbett, John E.*	1940-1942	26	Massachusetts	43rd Congress , June 23-26, 1940, Gibson Hotel, Cincinnati, OH; 44th Congress , June 29-July 2, 1941, Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City, NJ
Burdette, Leslie R.*	1938-1940	25	Oregon	41st Congress , June 26-29, 1938, John Marshal Hotel, Richmond, VA; 42nd Congress , June 25-29, 1939, Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles, CA
Pine, Harry E.*	1936-1938	24	Illinois	39th Congress , July 5-8, 1936, Hotel Book-Cadillac, Detroit, MI; 40th Congress , June 27-30, 1937, Seneca Hotel, Rochester, NY
Brown, Walter I.*	1934-1936	23	Massachusetts	37th Congress , July 2-5, 1934, Royal York Hotel, Toronto, CANADA; 38th Congress , Miami-Biltmore Hotel, Coral Gables, FL
McBurnie, Thomas*	1932-1934	22	New York	35th Congress , June 26-29, 1932, Hotel Statler, Cleveland, OH; 36th Congress , July 2-6, 1933, Palmer House, Chicago, IL

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Andreae, J. Fred*	1930-1932	21	Maryland	33rd Congress , June 17-22, 1930, Hotel Statler, Boston, MA; 34th Congress , June 21-23, 1931, Gunter Hotel, San Antonio, TX
Houghton, George S. *	1928-1930	20	Massachusetts	31st Congress , July 23-27, 1928, Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids, MI; 32nd Congress , June 17-22, 1929, Hotel Bellevue- Stratford, Philadelphia, PA
Mayer, Leo M.*	1927-1928	19	New York	30th Congress , June 18-24, 1927, Willard Hotel, Washington, D.C.
Kimball, Walter F.*	1925-1927	18	Missouri	28th Congress , June 15-20, 1925, Brown Hotel, Louisville, KY; 29th Congress , June 29-July 1, 1926, Civic Auditorium, San Francisco, CA
Martin, Thomas H.*	1923-1925	17	Pennsylvania	26th Congress , June 25-30, 1923, Hotel Sherman, Chicago, IL; Congress 27th , June 9-13, 1924, Convention Hall, Kansas City, MO
Todd, William S.*	1922-1923	16	Connecticut	25th Congress , June 26-29, 1922, Athenaeum, Indianapolis, IN
Abel, Oliver*	1921-1922	15	Missouri	24th Congress , June 27-July 1, 1921, Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, New York, NY
Augustine, Reginald C.*	1918-1921	14	Illinois	21st Congress , June 17-22, 1918, Masonic Temple, St. Paul, MN; 22nd Congress , July 21-25, 1919, Convention Hall, Rochester, NY; 23rd Congress , June 14-18, 1920, Planters Hotel, St. Louis, MO
McConnell, William T.*	1917-1918	13	Pennsylvania	20th Congress , July 9-14, 1917, Hotel Deshler, Columbus, OH
Alexander, Frank J.*	1915-1917	12	Utah	18th Congress , July 18-25, 1915, Memorial Auditorium Bldg., San Francisco, CA; 19th Congress , July 18-22, 1916, Infantry Hall, Providence, RI
Myer, Albert*	1913-1915	11	Minnesota	16th Congress , July 14-19, 1913, Hotel Seneca, Rochester, NY; 17th Congress , July 18-25, 1914, Planters Hotel, St. Louis, MO

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Schneider, George L.*	1911-1913	10	California	14th Congress , August 7-12, 1911, Hotel Utah, Salt Lake City, UT; 15th Congress , August 19-23, 1912, LaSalle Hotel, Chicago, IL
McDonnell, C. N.*	1910-1911	9	Ohio	13th Congress , August 15-18, 1910, Breakers Hall, Cedar Point, OH
Cook, Henry J.*	1908-1910	8	Tennessee	11th Congress , August 10-13, 1908, Musical Fund Hall, Philadelphia, PA; 12th Congress , June 21-24, 1909, Atlanta Auditorium, Atlanta, GA
Palmer, Briggs S.*	1906-1908	7	Massachusetts	9th Congress , July 30-August 2, 1906, Haines Hall, Rochester, NY; 10th Congress , June 24-27, 1907, Midland Hotel, Kansas City, MO
Clark, Burt B.*	1905-1906	6	New York	8th Congress , July 24-27, 1905, West Hotel, Minneapolis, MN
Holmes, Harry P.*	1904-1905	5	Iowa	7th Congress , August 1-4, 1904, Plankinton House, Milwaukee, WI
Eberhardt, John C.*	1903-1904	4	Ohio	6th Congress , July 7-9, 1903, Royal Palace Hotel, Atlantic City, NJ
Ellis, John H.*	1901-1903	3	Indiana	4th Congress , August 13-15, 1901, Sherman House, Chicago, IL; 5th Congress , August 19-22, 1902, American House, Boston, MA
Cross, Andrew J.*	1900-1901	2	New York	3rd Congress , August 14-16, 1900, Hotel Cadillac, Detroit, MI
Lembke, Charles F.*	1898-1900	1	New York	1st Congress , October 10-12, 1898, Broadway Central Hotel, NY, NY; 2nd Congress , August 15-17, 1899

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