The Accreditation Council on Optometric Education has awarded the professional optometric degree programs below the following pre-accreditation classification:

**Preliminary Approval**: a preaccreditation classification granted to a professional optometric degree program that has clearly demonstrated it is developing in accordance with Council standards. The program has approval to begin student recruitment, selection and admissions, and to begin offering the program.

The ACOE will review the preliminary approval classification annually during each academic year of the program through written reports and/or evaluation visits as deemed necessary by the Council. The Council will conduct a final on-site evaluation visit to the program for the consideration of an accreditation status during the academic year in which the first class is expected to graduate. If the program is found to meet the Council’s Standards, then the Council will grant an appropriate accreditation status.

Currently, no professional optometric degree programs have been awarded the pre-accreditation classification of Preliminary Approval.