

**PROPOSED BYLAWS AMENDMENT
ARTICLE I, MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Classification and Qualifications

C. Affiliate Membership Classifications

6. Student Members. A student of optometry in a program at a school or college accredited or pre-accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education who is (a) a member in good standing of the affiliated association for such students and (b) of another affiliated association (provided; however, the requirement in (b) shall not apply to students attending a program outside of the fifty United States and the District of Columbia) shall be eligible for classification as a Student Member of this Association. Student Members shall meet all the qualifications set forth in Article I, Section 1.A, except that a Student Member is not required to be an "optometrist" as defined in Article I, Section 1, Paragraph A.1. Membership classification as a Student Member ~~may continue until the end of the calendar year in which an eligible Student Member has received the degree of Doctor of Optometry.~~ shall immediately cease and convert to the appropriate Affiliate Membership Classification (Active Member, Federal Services Member, Optometric Educator Member or Post-Graduate Member) when an individual receives the degree of Doctor of Optometry. This automatic change in member classification shall not be counted for purposes of applying Article I, Section 3, Paragraph C, which limits changes in member classification to one per year.

EXPLANATION:

- If this amendment is adopted, graduating students will automatically be reclassified in an appropriate AOA and affiliate membership category upon graduation, through the end of the calendar year.
- Graduating students will automatically affiliate through the AOA affiliate association indicated in their membership record (current students must belong to AOSA plus another affiliate).
- “Active” membership classification will be used as the default category unless information provided to AOA indicates that the graduating student should be placed in a different category.
- This automatic reclassification will not count against the “one classification change per year” rule to allow for one additional reclassification application during a calendar year.
- The ascending dues schedule for graduating students described in Article. I, Section 2, Paragraph E still applies.

NOTE: Wording to be deleted ~~lined out~~.
 Wording to be added underscored.