

**Affiliation Agreement
Between
The Pennsylvania College of Optometry
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
And
University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown
Johnstown, Pennsylvania**

AFFILIATION AGREEMENT

This affiliation agreement is made between UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH AT JOHNSTOWN and the PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY as they are desirous of cooperating in providing a joint undergraduate/professional program of education leading to the Doctor of Optometry degree.

In consideration of this mutual objective, both institutions agree as follows:

I. PROGRAM CONSIDERATIONS:

- A. The Pennsylvania College of Optometry agrees to provide places in its first professional year for students who have successfully completed their undergraduate prerequisites for optometry at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown and fulfilled admission requirements for the Pennsylvania College of Optometry as outlined below.

The Pennsylvania College of Optometry reserves the right to make changes in its admissions requirements at any time. Any changes in admission requirements shall be communicated to University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown as soon as they become effective, and shall not be effective for University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown students until the academic year following the one in which the changes become effective at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry.

- B. The Affiliated Optometry Education Curriculum shall consist of a minimum of 90 undergraduate semester hours and four years of optometric education. The undergraduate curriculum proposed by University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown and accepted by the Pennsylvania College of Optometry as fulfillment of the prerequisites for the Doctor of Optometry program is listed in Addendum A.
- C. It is understood that the respective institutions will feature the affiliation in its catalog, admissions activities and in its advising and career counseling of students interested in optometry.
- D. University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown will notify the Pennsylvania College of Optometry by October 1st each year regarding those students who are enrolled in the affiliated program. Notification will include name, address and phone number which will allow the Pennsylvania College of Optometry to communicate with interested students as they proceed through their undergraduate program and encourage them to visit the College's campus for a tour and/or re-application appointment.
- E. University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown will identify, each year, those students who will be applying to the Pennsylvania College of Optometry. The Pennsylvania College of

Optometry requests that the names of these students be forwarded to its Admissions Office by October 15th.

- F. The parties agree that they shall not discriminate against any person in connection with this affiliation agreement on the basis of age, race, gender, religion, creed, sexual orientation, national origin, qualified handicap or veteran status.

II ADMISSION OF STUDENTS:

- A. Students may be considered during their third or fourth year of attendance at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown for admission to the Pennsylvania College of Optometry for the following Fall. Junior students applying for the program must plan their curriculum so that they will have completed all the requirements for graduation from University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown by the end of the first year at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry.
- B. Candidates from University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown (students having been part of the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown program for at least two academic years) seeking admission into the first professional year of the Doctor of Optometry program shall be presented to the Pennsylvania College of Optometry by a Joint Admissions Committee

The Joint Committee shall be comprised of five (5) members with two (2) members appointed by the Pennsylvania College of Optometry, two (2) members appointed by University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown and a practicing optometrist from the Johnstown area. The practicing optometrist member shall be proposed by the Pennsylvania College of Optometry and confirmed by the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown.

The Pennsylvania College of Optometry recommends that the annual meeting site of the Joint Admissions Committee meeting alternate between campuses. In order to ensure that decisions are made as a joint effort of both the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown and the Pennsylvania College of Optometry, the final recommendation regarding a candidate's application will be made if a joint meeting of the committee mentioned above is held either in person or as a telephone conference call.

In the event that a convenient meeting place or telephone conference call of the joint committee cannot be arranged, the candidate's file will be reviewed by the Admissions Committee of the Pennsylvania College of Optometry and this tentative recommendation would be communicated to the representative of University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown assigned to this affiliation. At that time, further input would be invited if a candidate's application was not viewed as favorable

- C. The Pennsylvania College of Optometry strongly encourages that applicants to the Doctor of Optometry program apply in the Fall, one year prior to the intended year of admission. Applicants must:

- 1) Submit a properly completed application accompanied by a non-refundable application fee to the Pennsylvania College of Optometry, Office of Admissions.
 - 2) Submit official transcripts of all previous college credits.
 - 3) Arrange to take the Optometry Admissions Test (OAT), no later than October of the year before intended admission and to have the results forwarded to the Office of Admissions.
 - 4) Have evaluations forwarded to the Pennsylvania College of Optometry. These evaluations should be submitted by a pre-professional committee (or three individual faculty members teaching natural science subjects) and the affiliated optometrist. The Pennsylvania College of Optometry agrees to assist in arranging for the practicing optometrist to interview students and to provide a letter of reference according to procedures outlined by the Pennsylvania College of Optometry. Additional letters of evaluation from other faculty members, optometrists or health professionals may be provided at the discretion of the applicant.
- D. All applicants supported by the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown's Health Sciences Committee will have an admissions interview at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry in accordance with the existing interview procedures.
- E. Final status of each student will be determined by the Director of Admissions at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry after receiving the recommendation of the Joint Admissions Committee outlined in this agreement.

III. DEGREES AWARDED:

- A. Students will be awarded the baccalaureate degree from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown upon receipt of an official transcript indicating the successful completion of one year of basic science education at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry, provided that they have fulfilled all other degree requirements for University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown.
- B. Students will be awarded the Doctor of Optometry degree by the Pennsylvania College of Optometry upon successful completion of the Affiliated Optometry Education Curriculum and the National Board of Examiners in Optometry-Basic Science and Clinical Science examinations.

IV. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS:

- A. Each party will designate a representative who will be responsible for expediting and directing the application and admission process. This individual will serve as a

resource person for students and for the program in general, carrying out the administrative details related to this cooperative endeavor.

- B. The Pennsylvania College of Optometry agrees to encourage the optometrist serving on the Joint Admissions Committee to be available to University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown students during their undergraduate career to observe her/his practice so that students can learn more about optometry and so that the optometrist will have some contact with the student that can be of use in the letter of evaluation during the application process.

V. DURATION AND TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT:

- A. This agreement shall be effective immediately upon the signing of this document and shall continue thereafter from year to year unless terminated by either institution upon one year's prior notice.
- B. The terms of this agreement may be modified by mutual consent of both institutions. Any modifications shall be recorded in writing.

PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

Thomas L. Lewis, O.D. Ph.D., President

(Date)

Robert E. Horne, Associate Dean for Student Affairs

(Date)

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH AT JOHNSTOWN

Albert L. Etheridge, Ph.D., President

(Date)

James R. Alexander, Ph.D., Interim
Vice President for Academic Affairs

(Date)

CURRICULUM AT UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH AT JOHNSTOWN

BIOLOGY MAJOR (3 years at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown)

First year

Fall Semester			Credits	Spring Semester			Credits
BIO	0110	General Biology I	3	BIO	0120	General Biology II	3
	0111	General Biology Lab	1		0121	General Biology Lab	1
CHEM	0111	General Chemistry I	4	CHEM	0112	General Chemistry II	4
	0113	General Chemistry Lab	1		0114	General Chemistry Lab	1
FR Seminar or Writing	0005		3	Writing	0006		3
Elective			3	Elective			3
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TOTAL CREDITS:			15	TOTAL CREDITS			15

Second Year

Fall Semester			Credits	Spring Semester			Credits
BIO	0350	Genetics	4	BIO	0360	Cell Biology	3
CHEM	0231	Organic Chemistry I	4		0361	Cell Biology Lab	1
	0233	Organic Chemistry Lab	1	CHEM	0232	Organic Chemistry II	4
MATH	0221	Calculus	4		0234	Organic Chemistry Lab	1
PSYCH	0200	Intro. to Psych.	3	Electives			6 or 7
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TOTAL CREDITS:			16	TOTAL CREDITS			15 or 16

Third Year

Fall Semester			Credits	Spring Semester			Credits
PHYS	0100	General Physics I	3	BIO	1125	Physiology	3
	0130	General Physics Lab	1		1225	Physiology Lab	1
BIO	1172	Microbiology and Lab	4+1	PHYS	0200	General Physics II	3
CHEM	0321	Biochemistry*	3		0230	General Physics Lab	1
Electives***			6	Electives			6
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TOTAL CREDIT:			18	TOTAL CREDITS			14

Fourth Year

PCO - credit for three biology electives**

*This course is not required but will be strongly recommended.

**These courses may be selected from the first year at PCO.

***MATH 1112 Introduction to Biostatistics (4) or Math 1153 Introduction to Probability Statistics must be taken to fulfill Statistics prerequisite.