



National Academy of Opticianry – Ophthalmic Career Progression Program NAW PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Week is celebrating its 12th anniversary of raising awareness of the role Registered Apprenticeship programs have as a proven pathway to successful careers, providing hands-on training, education, and skill development, ensuring young people are prepared for high-demand industries; and

WHEREAS, National Academy of Opticianry – Ophthalmic Career Progression Program empowers young people in our local community, offering opportunities to gain leadership skills, pursue educational advancement, and participate in service-oriented community-building projects while preparing for future careers; and

WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Week serves as an opportunity to highlight the role of apprenticeship in fostering economic growth, reducing unemployment, and creating pathways for all individuals, including youth opportunity, to secure sustainable and meaningful employment; and

WHEREAS, National Academy of Opticianry – Ophthalmic Career Progression Program supports young people through pre-apprenticeship programs that provide real-world experience in fields such as construction, healthcare, information technology, and green industries, fostering a diverse workforce that is prepared for the future; and

WHEREAS, the partnership between National Academy of Opticianry – Ophthalmic Career Progression Program and young people strengthens local communities by developing skilled workers who are committed to service, leadership, and innovation, contributing to sustainable economic growth and social development worldwide; and

WHEREAS, National Academy of Opticianry – Ophthalmic Career Progression Program's focus on leadership and civic engagement fosters the empowerment of young people as change-makers, preparing them to lead in their communities and workplaces; and

WHEREAS, National Academy of Opticianry – Ophthalmic Career Progression Program recognizes the role of Registered Apprenticeship in expanding opportunities in our workforce for those who have been disconnected from school or work, or adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality, thus providing a path for all qualified individuals, including women, youth, people of color, rural and tribal communities, justice-involved individuals and individuals with disabilities, to become apprentices and contribute to America's industries; and

WHEREAS, National Academy of Opticianry – Ophthalmic Career Progression Program recognizes the pivotal role educators/trainers, counselors, and pre-apprenticeship programs play in not only raising students', parents', and trusted guardians' awareness of Registered Apprenticeship opportunities but also serving as training providers, sponsors, and intermediaries.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Brian Iciek, Executive Director of the National Academy of Opticianry – Ophthalmic Career Progression Program.



National Academy of Opticianry – Ophthalmic Career Progression Program does recognize the importance of apprenticeship programs and will continue to support National Apprenticeship Day on April 26, 2026

IN SUPPORT

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