



September 9, 2008

Ms. Tiffany Bustle, COT
Optometric Assisting Instructor
Manatee Technical Institute - East Campus
5540 Lakewood Ranch Boulevard
Bradenton FL 34211

Dear Ms. Bustle:

The AOA Commission on Paraoptometric Certification is pleased to inform you that the Optometric Assisting Program at Manatee Technical Institute has been approved. What this means is that this program will be listed on our national roster as well as our Candidate Handbooks as an approved assistant program. You will also receive score reports for your candidates post-examination.

In addition, students of this program are eligible to sit directly for the Certified Paraoptometric Assistant (CPOA) examination at the student fee of *\$100. According to CPC policy, individuals will be considered paraoptometric students only if they are enrolled in a formal paraoptometric education approved by the Commission on Paraoptometric Certification.

Manatee Technical College has been assigned with a program code of #122. Candidates for the CPOA examination will need to include this information on the examination application as well as a copy of their program certificate/diploma. The CPC provides four regional testing dates each year in various locations (see attached press release).

Now that this program has been approved, you may wish to look into Accredited Council on Education (ACOE) accreditation. The information and guidelines are shown on the AOA Web site at www.aoa.org. I also invite you to submit information regarding your program so I may add on the AOA Web site (see other descriptions for examples).

Congratulations on the approval of this program. Thank you and please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Darlene Leuschke
Administrator
Commission on Paraoptometric Certification

CC: CPC

*fee is subject to change

