

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**"JCAHPO" Changes Name to "IJCAHPO"**

**ST. PAUL, Minn.—Jan. 17, 2018**—The Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO) announced at its Annual Meeting that its name has changed to The International Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (IJCAHPO) to better reflect the organization’s mission to promote global equitable comprehensive eye health through program accreditation and the education, certification and support of Allied Ophthalmic Personnel (AOP) for the eye care team.

“Our name is changing as we extend our vision internationally to serve AOP worldwide. IJCAHPO strives to bring involvement and commitment to the global ophthalmic community while we continue to provide the services that formed our organization’s foundation,” said William F. Astle, MD, FRCSC, Dipl. ABO, President of IJCAHPO’s Board of Directors.

“This transition to include the global AOP workforce has been one of our organization’s strategic goals for several years, and we are uniquely positioned to develop the education and certification of AOP globally,” Dr. Astle continued. IJCAHPO offers a variety of certifications for AOP, including: Certified Ophthalmic Assistant (COA®), Certified Ophthalmic Technicians (COT®), Certified Ophthalmic Medical Technologists (COMT®), Ophthalmic Surgical Assistant (OSA®), Registered Ophthalmic Ultrasound Biometrists (ROUB®), Certified Diagnostic Ophthalmic Sonographers (CDOS®), Corporate Certified Ophthalmic Assistants (CCOA®) and Ophthalmic Scribe (OSC®). The organization offers educational opportunities through a wide range of programs and activities including annual and regional meetings, lectures, workshops, distance and online learning opportunities, as well as independent programs approved for credit.

**About IJCAHPO®**

The International Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (IJCAHPO), formally the Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO), was established as a not-for-profit organization in 1969 to offer certification and continuing education opportunities to ophthalmic allied health personnel. Since then more than 26,000 people in the U.S., Canada, and around the world have earned IJCAHPO® certification. For more information visit: [www.jcahpo.org](http://www.jcahpo.org).

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**International Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology**

2025 Woodlane Drive · St. Paul, Minnesota 55125-2998

Phone: 651-731-2944 · Toll Free: 800-284-3937 · Fax: 651-731-0410 · [www.jcahpo.org](http://www.jcahpo.org)

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