

ECOO NEWS



EDO DIPLOMAT AWARD TO ATTEND THE EAOO CONFERENCE IN RIGA, MAY 2026

ECOO is pleased to offer an award, for the second year running, to enable a European Diplomat optometry graduate to attend the 17th Annual European Academy of Optometry and Optics (EAOO) conference. This conference will take place in Riga, Latvia 15-17 May 2026 and is an inspiring event filled with cutting-edge research presentations, networking opportunities and professional development sessions.

The winner of the Diplomat Award will receive free registration for the conference, €700 towards travel and accommodation, and a complimentary one-year membership of the EAOO. After the conference we will ask the winner to write a short report of their experience. You can read an interview with last year's winner Elina Jalo, optometrist and EDO graduate from Metropolia University of Applied Sciences in Finland, Helsinki, [here](#).

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible for the EDO Diplomat Award, applicants must:

- have completed their optometry degree at an EDO accredited institution **or**
- have been awarded the EDO by examination
- **apply by completing [this form](#)**

Selection process

All applications will be reviewed by the ECOO application panel. The panel will select one winner based on the answers given to the application questions and their decision will be final. No correspondence will be entered into regarding the decision.

Closing date

The closing date for online applications is **15 December 2025**. The Award winner will be notified by email in January 2026.

Contact information

For any queries regarding the EDO Diplomat Award, please email: accreditation@ecoo.info

13 October 2025

ABOUT ECOO

The European Council of Optometry and Optics (ECCO) represents the interests of optometrists and opticians across Europe. Our members are national professional associations from 25 countries who together represent more than 200,000 opticians and optometrists. ECCO aims to promote eye health to the public across borders and to harmonise clinical and educational standards of optometric and optical practice throughout Europe.

ABOUT THE ECCO ACCREDITATION AGENCY

ECCO has developed the EDO and EQO as a syllabi and competency frameworks, and operates an accreditation scheme for institutions to benchmark against this framework. The Accreditation Agency has been set up to run this accreditation work. To find out more about this work visit:

<https://ecco.info/ecco-accreditation-agency/>