

Optometry Description

Optometrists are the major providers of primary eye care in the U.S. They examine the eyes for vision problems, disease, and other abnormal conditions. They test for proper depth and color perception, the ability to coordinate and focus the eyes, and they prescribe lenses and/or treatments including glasses, contact lenses, corrective eye exercises, therapy, and in some states, therapeutic drugs for specific diseases.

[Air Force Optometrist Career Information](#)
[Air Force Optometry](#)
[American Academy of Optometry \(AAO\)](#)
[American Academy of Optometry Foundation \(AAOF\)](#)
[American Optometric Association \(AOA\)](#)
[American Optometric Association \(AOA\) Compass](#)
[American Optometric Student Association \(AOSA\); AOSA Scholarship Information](#)
[Applying to Optometry School](#)
[Army Ophthalmologist Career](#)
[Army Optometrist Career](#)
[College of Optometrists in Vision Development \(COVD\)](#)
[Eye on Optometry Blog](#)
[Financial Aid Information](#)
[Illinois College of Optometry Focus on Your Future Summer Program](#) (click on "View More Info" under "Focus on Your Future")
[Illinois College of Optometry Interview Day](#)
[Massachusetts Society of Optometrists \(MSO\)](#)
[National Eye Institute \(NIE\) Summer Internship Program](#)
[National Optometric Association \(NOA\)](#)
[National Optometric Student Association \(NOSA\)](#)
[Ohio State University College of Optometry Improving Diversity in Optometric Careers \(I-DOC\)](#)
[Optometric Extension Program Foundation](#)
[Optometrist Career Guide](#)
[Optometrist Career Overview](#)
[Optometrist Interview](#)
[Optometrist Occupational Outlook](#)
[Optometry Career Guide](#)
[Optometry FAQ](#)
[Optometry Overview](#)
[Optometry Programs Admissions Directory](#)
[Optometry School Admissions Interview](#)
[Optometry School Interview Questions](#)
[Optometry School Practice Interview Questions](#)
[Optometry Student Profile and Prerequisites](#)
[OptometryStudents.com](#)
[Pick the Right Optometry School](#)
[Scholarship and Grant Resources](#)
[State Optometric Associations](#)
[SUNY College of Optometry Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program \(CSTEP\) for Underrepresented Minority Students \(for NY residents\)](#)
[SUNY College of Optometry Tour Tuesdays](#) (third Tuesday of every month)
[Things I Wish I Had Known Before My First Day of Optometry School](#)
[University of California, Berkeley School of Optometry Friday Visitation Program](#)
[University of California, Berkeley School of Optometry Opto-Camp](#)

[University of the Incarnate Word Rosenberg School of Optometry Summer Optometry Institute](#)
[Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity \(VOSH\) International Volunteer Opportunities](#)
[What Do Doctors of Optometry Do?](#)

(Additional optometry links are located on the "[Health Professions Links](#)" page.)

Degree	O.D.
Program Length	4 years
Professional Schools' Organization	ASCO (Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry) Optometry Schools Schools and Colleges of Optometry
Application Service	OptomCAS (Optometry Centralized Application Service)
Academic Admission Requirements	Minimum three years; BA or BS preferred; two semesters General Chemistry; one to two semesters Organic Chemistry; two semesters each of Physics, Biology, Math. Microbiology, Psychology, English (specific additional requirements recommended by individual schools). Prerequisites Links to prerequisites for each U.S. optometry school are found at the bottom of the Choosing Your Courses page.
Admission Exam	OAT (Optometry Admission Test)
Personal Attributes & Experiences	Optometry students must be intelligent, scientifically curious, motivated, and socially conscious. Evidence of good citizenship and professionalism. Demonstrated knowledge of profession.
Recommendation Letters	Health Professions Committee letter (usually confidential) sent with additional individual letters of support. Some schools accept individual letters of recommendation.