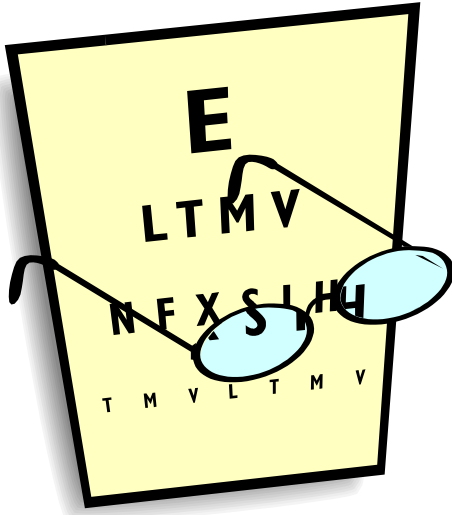


PRE-OPTOMETRY PROGRAM

Wright State University



Optometry

Optometry was recently ranked by U.S. News & World Report as the second best profession because of its regular hours, few emergency calls, and collaboration with other professions. Although there has been a steady increase in the ophthalmic market, there has been a downward trend in applications to optometry school.

Ohio only has one optometry school located at The Ohio State University.

Students interested in applying to Optometry Schools should have a solid foundation in biology, chemistry, and physics. In addition, a competitive GPA and OAT scores and experience or volunteer work within the profession are also required. Well qualified students are those that excel in critical thinking, have good communication skills, and exhibit leadership.

To date there are currently 35,855 practicing optometrists in approximately 7,000 communities across the nation. The American Optometric Association estimates that a ratio of one practicing optometrists to every 7,000 people would be a reasonable average for the United States (few states meet this need!). Optometrists practice in rural communities, suburban areas, and large cities. The majority of optometrists work in an office setting either in solo practice, with a team of optometrists, or with other health professionals. Others choose a career in military, public health, or at hospitals, clinics, teaching institutions, and community health centers.

Doctors of Optometry receive four years of specialized professional education and clinical trainings at accredited school or college of optometry. Currently, there are only 21 schools and colleges of optometry – 20 are in the continental U.S.; one is in Puerto Rico.

CORE PRE-REQUISITES

Physiology:	ANT 3110, 3120
Biology (+labs):	BIO 1120, 1150
Physics:	PHY 1110, 1120
Chemistry (+labs):	CHM 1120, 1210
Psychology:	PSY 1010
Lifespan	
Development:	PSY 3410
Chemistry (+labs):	CHM 2110, 2120
English:	ENG 1100, 2100
Biochemistry :	BMB 4210
Mathematics :	MTH 1340, 2240
Microbiology:	M&I 2200 or
	BIO 3100/3110

Humanities & Social Sciences:

7 sem hrs each

Recommended Courses

Courses in statistics, ethics, histology, sociology, medical terminology, and small business management are strongly recommended

Optometry and Wright State University

Wright State University is prepared to help you plan a career in optometry. We offer all the prerequisite courses necessary for applying to optometry school. Most students admitted to optometry programs have bachelor's degrees (>80%) or three years or more undergraduate education. Applicants who do not have a B.S. or B.A. should be making progress towards such degree.

Pre- Optometry

Doctors of Optometry are independent primary health care providers who examine, diagnose, treat, and manage disease and disorders of the visual system (American Optometric Association). The U.S. ophthalmic market has continued to increase over the years and is currently the nation's third largest independent health care profession and ranked as one of the top ten income-earning professions. Growth in the eyewear and eye care market is attributable to:

- Steady but moderate growth in economy
- Increases in the range and volume of services provided by optometrists
- Expansion in private third party and governmental coverage of vision and eye care services
- Growth in the population needing eye care (>50% of the population wear glasses or contacts)
- The public's enhanced awareness of the importance of good eye health care

Wright State University

College of Science & Mathematics

For additional information
please visit our website:

<https://science-math.wright.edu/pre-health>

"What is the OAT?"

In addition to the course prerequisites, students interested in applying to optometry programs are required to take the Optometry Admissions Test (OAT) which is available year round. The OAT is a battery consisting of the following four individual tests: the Survey of the Natural Sciences, Reading Comprehension Test, Physics Test, and Quantitative Reasoning Test.

It is recommended that at least one year of collegiate education, including courses in biology, general and organic chemistry, and physics, be completed before taking the OAT. The OAT is comprised of 4 parts:

- Survey of natural Sciences
- Reading Comprehension
- Physics
- Quantitative Reasoning

OAT scores range from 200 - 400.

How Competitive is the Admissions Process?

The admission process at The Ohio State University College of Optometry is competitive with only 65 new students being admitted each year selected from approximately 300 applicants. The grade point average for entering optometry students is among the highest of all schools and colleges of optometry. The entering class of 2014 had a GPA of 3.51 cumulative GPA and an average total science Optometry Admission Test (OAT) score of 320. The deadline for applications (OptomCAS) is March 31 for the class entering the following autumn. All application materials, including supplementary applications and letter of evaluation must be received by this deadline.

Application materials become available to the preceding July and can be obtained online at www.optometry.osu.edu. Prospective students are encouraged to apply early

WHY DO STUDENTS CHOOSE OPTOMETRY?

Excellent income: According to the 2011 American Optometric Association Economic Survey, the average net income for optometrists in \$156,550

Satisfying professional career: Optometrists have the satisfaction of helping their patients care for the most highly valued sense-sight

Highly Respected Profession: Optometrists are viewed as leaders in their community

Career outlook is excellent: All areas of the country need optometrists to serve a population which is increasingly aware of the importance of prevention and proper health care, and which requires the service of optometrists now more than ever.

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