

ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES OF OPTOMETRY
GENERAL AND SCHOOL-SPECIFIC PREREQUISITES
 April 2021

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS for most optometry programs include at least one year of Biology or Zoology, General Chemistry, General Physics, English and College Math. Contact the schools or colleges directly by visiting their websites to confirm prerequisite courses and to learn whether AP credits and/or on-line credits are accepted to complete prerequisites.

ADDITIONAL SCHOOL-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

| School | CALC | ANAT | PHYSIO | ORGAN CHEM | BIO CHEM | MICRO | STATS | PSYCH | SHADOWING |
|---|--------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|------------|
| ALABAMA University of Alabama at Birmingham, School of Optometry http://www.uab.edu/optometry | 1 course | SR | SR | 1 course w/lab | 1 course | 1 course | 1 course | 1 course | Req 40 hrs |
| ARIZONA Arizona College of Optometry, Midwestern University http://www.midwestern.edu/Programs_and_Admission/AZ_Optomtry.htm | 1 course | 1 course ¹ | 1 course ¹ | 1 course w/lab | 1 course | 1 course | 1 course | 1 course | SR |
| CALIFORNIA Southern Calif. Col. of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum Univ. https://www.ketchum.edu/optometry/requirements | 1 sem or 1 qtr | 1 sem or 1 qtr/no lab required ¹ | 1 sem or 1 qtr/no lab required ¹ | 1 sem or 1 qtr/no lab required | 1 sem or 1 qtr/no lab required | 1 sem or 1 qtr/lab | 1 sem or 1 qtr | 1 sem or 1 qtr | Rec |
| CALIFORNIA University of California-Berkeley, School of Optometry ² http://optometry.berkeley.edu | 1 sem or 1 qtr | 1 sem or 1 qtr, lab SR | 1 sem or 1 qtr w/lab | 1 sem or 1 qtr, w/lab | 1 sem or 1 qtr | 1 sem or 1 qtr | 1 sem or 1 qtr | 1 sem or 1 qtr | SR |
| CALIFORNIA Western University of Health Sciences, College of Optometry https://prospective.westernu.edu/optometry/od/ | 1 course | 1 course ³ | 1 course ³ | 1 course w/lab | 1 course | 1 course w/lab | 1 course | 1 course | SR |
| FLORIDA Nova Southeastern University, College of Optometry http://optometry.nova.edu | 1 sem or 2 qtrs | 1 sem or 2 qtrs ⁴ | 1 sem or 2 qtrs ⁴ | 1 sem or 2 qtrs w/lab | 1 sem or 2 qtrs | 1 sem or 2 qtrs | SR | SR | SR |
| ILLINOIS Chicago College of Optometry, Midwestern University https://www.midwestern.edu/programs_and_admission/il_optometry.html | 1 course | 1 course ¹ | 1 course ¹ | 1 course w/lab | 1 course | 1 course | 1 course | 1 course | SR |
| ILLINOIS Illinois College of Optometry http://www.ico.edu | 1 course | Rec | Rec | 1 course | Rec | 1 course w/lab | 1 course | 1 course | SR |
| INDIANA Indiana University, School of Optometry https://optometry.iu.edu/ | 1 course of college math | SR | SR | 1 course (2nd course Rec) | 1 course | 1 course w/lab | 1 course | 1 course | SR |
| KENTUCKY University of Pikeville, Kentucky College of Optometry http://www.upike.edu/KYCO | 1 or 2 sem college math | SR | SR | 1 course w/lab | SR | SR | SR | 1 course | SR |

¹Separate anatomy/physiology courses or combined anatomy and physiology I, II courses are acceptable. ²One semester or one quarter of immunology (w/o lab) is required. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Berkeley Optometry will accept pass/no pass prerequisite coursework along with online lecture and labs taken during terms impacted by the crisis. ³ If a combined A&P course, it must be at least 4 semester or 6 quarter units. A lab is not required.

⁴If a combined anatomy/physiology course is not taken, separate courses in anatomy and physiology must be taken.

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| MASSACHUSETTS Massachusetts Col. of Pharmacy and Health Sci., School of Optometry https://www.mcphs.edu/academics/school-of-optometry/optometry | 1 course | Rec | Rec | 1 course | Rec | 1 course | 1 course | 1 course | Rec |
| MASSACHUSETTS New England College of Optometry http://neco.edu/admissions/requirements | 1 course | Rec | Rec | 1 course w/lab | 1 course | 1 course | 1 course | 1 course | SR |
| MICHIGAN Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris State University http://www.ferris.edu/mco | 1 sem or 2 qtrs ⁵ | SR | SR | 1 sem w/lab | 1 sem or 2 qtrs | 1 course w/lab | 1 sem or 2 qtrs | 1 sem or 2 qtrs | SR Req 20 hrs Early Adm Prog only |
| MISSOURI University of Missouri-St. Louis, College of Optometry http://optometry.umsl.edu | 1 sem or 1 qtr | SR | SR | 1 sem or 2 qtrs w/lab | SR | 1 sem or 1qtr w/lab | 1 sem or 1 qtr | 1 sem or 1 qtr | SR 20 hrs or more |
| NEW YORK State University of New York, College of Optometry http://www.sunyopt.edu | 1 sem or 1 qtr | Rec | Rec | 2 sems or 3 qtrs w/lab ⁶ | Rec ⁶ | Rec | 1 sem or 1 qtr | 1 sem or 1 qtr | SR |
| OKLAHOMA Northeastern State Univ. – Oklahoma College of Optometry http://optometry.nsuok.edu | 1 sem ⁵ | SR | SR | 1 sem w/lab | 1 sem ⁷ | 1 sem | 1 sem | 1 sem | SR 30+ hrs |
| OHIO The Ohio State University, College of Optometry http://optometry.osu.edu | 1 course | SR | 1 course ⁸ | 1 course | 1 course ⁸ | 1 course w/lab | SR | 1 course | Minimum 10 hrs with 2 ODs |
| OREGON Pacific University, College of Optometry http://www.pacificu.edu | 1 sem or 1 qtr | 1 sem w/lab | 1 sem w/lab | See below ⁹ | See below ⁹ | 1 sem or 1 qtr w/lab | 1 sem or 1 qtr | 1 sem or 1 qtr | SR 10+ hrs |
| PENNSYLVANIA Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University http://www.Salus.edu | SR ¹⁰ | SR | Rec | See below ¹¹ | See below ¹¹ | 1 sem or 2 qtrs | 1 sem or 2 qtrs | 1 sem or 2 qtrs | Rec 25 hrs, Optometry or Ophthalmology |

⁵Calculus I or its equivalent is required, not brief calculus or elements of calculus ⁶One course in biochem can substitute for one course of either general or organic chemistry. ⁷For institutions with multiple levels of biochemistry offered, the more stringent biochemistry course is required. ⁸If school spreads material over two courses, then both courses are required. ⁹Organic chemistry – standard one year course sequence with lab or one semester of organic chemistry with lab combined with one semester of biochemistry with lab if one is offered. ¹⁰One semester of calculus will fulfill one year college math requirement. ¹¹One semester of organic chemistry I with lab and one semester of organic chemistry II with lab are required. Biochem or molecular biology (lab highly recommended) may substitute for organic chemistry II.

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| PUERTO RICO Inter American University of Puerto Rico, School of Optometry http://www.optonet.inter.edu | 1 sem or 2 qtrs | Rec | Rec | 1 sem or 2 qtrs | 1 sem or 2 qtrs | 1 sem or 2 qtrs | 1 sem or 2 qtrs | 1 sem or 2 qtrs | SR |
| TENNESSEE Southern College of Optometry https://www.sco.edu/academic-information | 1 course | SR | SR | 1 course w/lab | 1 course ¹² | 1 course w/lab ¹³ | 1 course | 1 course | Minimum 30 hrs in at least 2 settings |
| TEXAS University of Houston, College of Optometry http://www.opt.uh.edu | 1 course | See below ¹⁴ | See below ¹⁴ | 1 course w/lab | 1 course | 1 course w/lab | 1 course | 1 course | SR |
| TEXAS Univ. of the Incarnate Word, Rosenberg School of Optometry http://www.uiw.edu/optometry/ | 1 course | 1 course ¹⁵ | 1 course ¹⁵ | 1 course w/lab ¹⁶ | 1 course ¹⁷ | 1 course w/lab ¹³ | 1 course | 1 course | 20 hrs with OD |

¹²Upper-level molecular biology can substitute for biochem. ¹³Bacteriology can substitute for microbiology. ¹⁴Eight hours of junior-/senior-level human biological sciences are required; a minimum of three hours must be anatomy and/or physiology. Freshman-/sophomore-level A&P will not satisfy this requirement ¹⁵1 course Human Anatomy and/or Human Physiology w/lab required. One semester of any of the following courses with lab may substitute: Biology II, Cell Biology or Genetics ¹⁶Two semesters general chemistry w/labs and one semester organic chemistry w/lab are required ¹⁷Molecular biology can substitute for biochem.