

Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice (IPECP) Core Competencies for Optometric Education

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Overarching Goal

The school or college of optometry shall ensure that before graduation each student will have demonstrated critical professional and personal attributes, including professionalism, by demonstrating honesty and integrity in all interactions with patients and their families, colleagues, and [...] a commitment to work as an integral member of the larger interprofessional health care team to improve patient care outcomes. (2011 ASCO Attributes document)

In order to achieve this Overarching Goal, the ASCO IPRF Committee has developed **5 Core IPECP Competencies for Optometric Education**:



1. Identity

Understanding optometry's professional identity, as well as the identities of other professions

- Champion the roles and responsibilities of the profession of optometry to the fullest scope of practice
- Acknowledge the roles of other professions through review of patient health information and appropriate referral
- Represent optometry as a part of the interprofessional team to advance public health



2. Active Participation

Implementation of a sequential series of IPE learning activities

- Engage in opportunities, didactic, clinical, curricular, and/or extracurricular, for IPE
- Provide joint education with students from other professions in various classroom settings/institutions
- Apply IPE knowledge, skills, attitudes, behaviors, and values into clinical training and practice

3. Integration

Promotion and integration of optometry into patient-centered team-based care

- Share knowledge, values, and respect with other professions to maximize expertise
- Serve as members of interprofessional teams to address patient and population health care needs
- Facilitate interactions with other health care professionals, patients, and their families

4. Teamwork

Development and demonstration of effective interprofessional and patient-centered skills

- Recognize the patient as a central part of the healthcare team
- Communicate confidently with the healthcare team on assessment, management, and disease prevention
- Acknowledge diversity in the backgrounds of the health care team members, while respecting the cultural beliefs of the patient
- Practice terminology and presentation of materials easily accessed and understood by all members of the healthcare team

5. Collaboration

Collaboration and coordination across academic institutions, professions, health systems and community partners

- Deliver patient care that is accessible, safe, timely, efficient, effective, and equitable
- Improve community care and patient advocacy by understanding social determinants of health that impact access to healthcare
- Develop meaningful relationships between professions and with patients and their families, with attention to cultural humility
- Encourage and provide feedback among stakeholders to enhance patient and population health care