

**ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES OF OPTOMETRY**  
**GENERAL AND SCHOOL-SPECIFIC PREREQUISITES**

April 2019  
 updated 6-27-19

**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
<b>ALABAMA</b> University of Alabama at Birmingham, School of Optometry <a href="http://www.uab.edu/optometry">http://www.uab.edu/optometry</a>	1 course	SR	SR	1 sem or 2 qtrs w/lab	1 course	1 course	1 course	1 course	Req 40 hrs
<b>ARIZONA</b> Arizona College of Optometry, Midwestern University <a href="http://www.midwestern.edu/Programs_and_Admission/AZ_Optomtry.html">http://www.midwestern.edu/Programs_and_Admission/AZ_Optomtry.html</a>	1 course	1 course <sup>1</sup>	1 course <sup>1</sup>	1 course w/lab	1 course	1 course	1 course	1 course	SR
<b>CALIFORNIA</b> Southern Calif. Col. of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum Univ. <a href="https://www.ketchum.edu/optometry/requirements">https://www.ketchum.edu/optometry/requirements</a>	1 sem or 1 qtr	1 sem or 1 qtr/no lab required <sup>1</sup>	1 sem or 1 qtr/no lab required <sup>1</sup>	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
<b>CALIFORNIA</b> University of California-Berkeley, School of Optometry <sup>2</sup> <a href="http://optometry.berkeley.edu">http://optometry.berkeley.edu</a>	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
<b>CALIFORNIA</b> Western University of Health Sciences, College of Optometry <a href="https://prospective.westernu.edu/optometry/od/">https://prospective.westernu.edu/optometry/od/</a>	1 course	1 course <sup>3</sup>	1 course <sup>3</sup>	1 course w/lab	1 course	1 course w/lab	1 course	1 course	SR
<b>FLORIDA</b> Nova Southeastern University, College of Optometry <a href="http://optometry.nova.edu">http://optometry.nova.edu</a>	1 sem or 2 qtrs	1 sem or 2 qtrs <sup>4</sup>	1 sem or 2 qtrs <sup>4</sup>	1 sem or 2 qtrs w/lab	1 sem or 2 qtrs	1 sem or 2 qtrs	SR	SR	SR
<b>ILLINOIS</b> Chicago College of Optometry, Midwestern University <a href="https://www.midwestern.edu/programs_and_admission/il_optometry.html">https://www.midwestern.edu/programs_and_admission/il_optometry.html</a>	1 course	1 course <sup>1</sup>	1 course <sup>1</sup>	1 course w/lab	1 course	1 course	1 course	1 course	Rec
<b>ILLINOIS</b> Illinois College of Optometry <a href="http://www.ico.edu">http://www.ico.edu</a>	1 course	Rec	Rec	1 course	Rec	1 course w/lab	1 course	1 course	SR
<b>INDIANA</b> Indiana University, School of Optometry <a href="http://www.opt.indiana.edu">http://www.opt.indiana.edu</a>	1 course of college math	SR	SR	1 course (2nd course Rec)	1 course	1 course w/lab	1 course	1 course	SR
<b>KENTUCKY</b> University of Pikeville, Kentucky College of Optometry <a href="http://www.upike.edu/KYCO">http://www.upike.edu/KYCO</a>	1 or 2 sem college math	SR (Jr. or Sr. level only)	SR (Jr. or Sr. level only)	1 course w/lab	SR	SR	SR	1 course	SR

<sup>1</sup>Separate anatomy/physiology courses or combined anatomy and physiology I, II courses are acceptable. <sup>2</sup>One semester or one quarter of immunology (w/o lab) is required. <sup>3</sup> If a combined A&P course, it must be at least 4 semester or 6 quarter units. A lab is not required. <sup>4</sup>If a combined anatomy/physiology course is not taken, separate courses in anatomy and physiology must be taken.

qtr = quarter; sem = semester; Rec = Recommended;  
 SR = Strongly Recommended; Req = Required

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

<sup>5</sup>Calculus I or its equivalent is required, not brief calculus or elements of calculus <sup>6</sup>For institutions with multiple levels of biochemistry offered, the more stringent biochemistry course is required. <sup>7</sup>One course in biochem can substitute for one course of either general or organic chemistry. <sup>8</sup>If school spreads material over two courses, then both courses are required. <sup>9</sup>Organic 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. <sup>10</sup>One semester of calculus will fulfill one year college math requirement. <sup>11</sup>One 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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<b>TENNESSEE</b> <b>Southern College of Optometry</b> <a href="https://www.sco.edu/academic-information">https://www.sco.edu/academic-information</a>	1 course	SR	SR	1 course w/lab	1 course <sup>12</sup>	1 course w/lab <sup>13</sup>	1 course	1 course	Minimum 30 hrs in at least 2 settings
<b>TEXAS</b> <b>University of Houston, College of Optometry</b> <a href="http://www.opt.uh.edu">http://www.opt.uh.edu</a>	1 course	See below <sup>14</sup>	See below <sup>14</sup>	1 course w/lab	1 course	1 course w/lab	1 course	1 course	SR
<b>TEXAS</b> <b>Univ. of the Incarnate Word, Rosenberg School of Optometry</b> <a href="http://www.uiw.edu/optometry/">http://www.uiw.edu/optometry/</a>	1 course	1 course <sup>15</sup>	1 course <sup>15</sup>	1 course w/lab <sup>16</sup>	1 course <sup>17</sup>	1 course w/lab <sup>13</sup>	1 course	1 course	40 hrs with OD

<sup>12</sup>Upper-level molecular biology can substitute for biochem. <sup>13</sup>Bacteriology can substitute for microbiology. <sup>14</sup>Eight hours of junior-/senior-level human biological sciences are required; a minimum of three hours must be anatomy and physiology. Freshman-/sophomore-level A&P will not satisfy this requirement <sup>15</sup>1 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 <sup>16</sup>Two semesters gen chemistry and one semester org chemistry are required. <sup>17</sup>Molecular biology can substitute for biochem.