



Pre-Optometry Advising Sheet

A majority of students earn a bachelor's degree before enrolling in optometry school, but a degree is not always required for admissions at all optometry schools. Specific admission requirements differ widely among schools. Doctor of Optometry requires four years of specialized professional education and clinical training of which two years are dedicated to the basic health and visual sciences and two years studying diagnostic and treatment techniques in clinical settings. Upon graduation and successfully passing rigorous national board and state board examinations, OD's become licensed to practice optometry. Additionally, OD's are required to complete 50 hours of continuing education every two years in order to keep current in their profession.

Common Pre-Optometry Prerequisite Courses			
Biology	One year of general biology w/lab	BIO 1210/L, BIO 1220/L	
Chemistry	One year of general inorganic chemistry w/lab	CHM 1210/L, CHM 1220/L	
Organic Chemistry	One year of organic chemistry w/lab	CHM 3140/L, CHM 3150/L	
Physics	One year of general physics w/lab	PHY 1210/L, PHY 1220/L OR PHY 1510/L, PHY 1520/L	
Mathematics	Generally, at least one semester of Math is required. Some require calculus, others may require statistics	MAT 1200 OR MAT 1140	STA 1200 OR STA 1300
Molecular Biology	One semester is strongly recommended or required	BIO 3220	
Biochemistry	One semester is strongly recommended or required at some schools	CHM 3270/L	
English	One year is required	ENG 1103, ENG 2105	
Immunology	Require by some schools	BIO 4650	
Anatomy, Physiology	One semester strongly recommended or required	BIO 2340, BIO 2350	
Social Sciences	Many schools require at least one course in Psychology.	PSY 2201	

Resources

- Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry: <http://www.opted.org/>
- Centralized Application Service for Schools of Optometry: <http://www.optomcas.org/>
- American Optometric Association: <https://www.aoa.org>
- California Optometric Association: <https://www.coavision.org>
- American Academy of Optometry: <http://www.aaopt.org/>
- National Optometric Association: <http://nationaloptometricassociation.com/>