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TRAIN FOR A CAREER AS AN

Optical Technician

Diploma Program



Overview

➤ Program Outline

Optical Technicians work daily to help customers see better and love the way they look. Working in this field is more than helping people pick the right glasses. As an Optical Technician, you will also perform basic eye exams, measure the bridge and eye size of your clients, and fabricate lenses to fit prescriptions.

In this program, you will develop knowledge and skills within a blended learning delivery format. Blended learning combines traditional classroom instruction and the online learning environment to optimize the educational experience. Blended courses are indicated by an asterisk (*) in the module listing.

The anatomy and physiology of the eye, different lens and frame types, and optical office procedures will be studied within this program. Externships are built into the curriculum so that you can practice the skills learned, hands-on. As an Optical Technician, you may work as a Lab Technician, Contact Lens Fitter, or a Dispensing Optician in locations such as retail vision centers, hospitals, and medical centers.

In preparation for the blended courses, students must satisfy these two requirements:

- Complete the online New Student Blended Tutorial, which includes exercises for students to test accessibility and become familiar with navigation in all areas of blended courses.
- Meet the specific computer requirements with acceptable hardware and software configuration and internet access as noted under admissions requirements.

LOCATION	Los Angeles and Ontario
DURATION	Approximately 9 months
ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS	<p>Each program has entrance requirements, including an entrance exam. Some of the admissions requirements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be at least 18 or have a parent or guardian's signature • All applicants must take and pass entrance exams before admission • Must have a high school diploma or the equivalent <p>Be sure to consult with an Admissions Advisor to get all the information on admission into the Optical Technician program.</p>
CAREER OPTIONS	<p>Here are some of the industry organizations and medical offices that have hired ACC graduates: A Child's View Opticians, Costco Optical, Kaiser Permanente, LensCrafters, Los Angelenos Medical Center, Pearle Vision, Sears Optical, Target Optical, Terry Eye Institute, and Walmart Vision Centers</p>

Module Descriptions

The training program is divided into learning units called modules. The Optical Technician program consists of seven modules. Each core module stands alone and is not dependent upon previous training. Upon successful completion of classroom training, students participate in a 200-hour externship. Completion of the program is acknowledged by the awarding of a diploma.

National certifications, such as the National Opticianry Competency Exam and Contact Lens Registry Exam administered by the American Board of Opticianry and National Contact Lens Examiners (ABO/NCLE), enhance the graduate's employability and are required for self-employment, as well as management in the optical field.

Module #	Module Title	Clock Hours	Quarter Credits
OPT-1	Light and Single Vision*	80	6.0
OPT-2	Multifocals*	80	6.0
OPT-3	Frames/Lenses*	80	6.0
OPT-4	Soft Contact Lenses*	80	7.0
OPT-5	Rigid Contact Lenses*	80	7.0
OPT-6	Anatomy/Physiology/Prisms*	80	6.0
OPT-7	Optical Office Procedures*	80	6.0
OPT-EXT	Externship	200	6.5
Program Total		760	50.5

*Modules delivered in a blended format, a combination of online and on-ground.

OPT-1 Light and Single Vision*

This module starts with an introduction to light, refraction, and reflection. Students learn basic anatomy and physiology of the eye. Different lens designs, prescription, true powers, transposition, metric system, and diopter power are discussed. Students learn to calculate the horizontal and vertical powers. Refractive errors are discussed. Prentice's Rule is introduced and students calculate induced prism. Students receive hands-on experience in lensometry, frame measurements, and patient measurements. Students practice the steps required to fabricate a pair of single vision glasses. American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards are presented and students' projects are checked according to the standards. Students learn how to tint lenses. Students practice salesmanship through role-playing. Causes and treatments of low vision are discussed. Students are introduced to the personal computer and gain experience utilizing a variety of instructional programs related to theoretical concepts taught in this module.

OPT-2 Multifocals*

This module starts with an introduction to anatomy and physiology of the eye. Different lens designs, prescription, true powers, transposition, metric system, and diopter power are discussed. Students learn to calculate the horizontal and vertical powers. Refractive errors are discussed. Prentice's Rule is introduced and students calculate induced prism. Students receive hands-on experience in lensometry, frame measurements, patient measurements and progressive lens mapping techniques. Students practice the steps required to fabricate multifocal glasses using plastic, metal, and nylon-chord frames. Vertical imbalance, slab-off, and image jump are discussed. ANSI standards are presented and students' projects are checked according to the standards. Students learn how to tint lenses. Students gain practical experience utilizing a variety of instructional programs related to theoretical concepts taught in this module.

OPT-3 Frames/Lenses*

In this module, students learn about different lens and frame materials and designs. Students learn about various optical products available in the market. Different lens designs, prescription, true powers, transposition, metric system, and diopter power are discussed. Students learn about prism and Prentice's Rule. Students receive hands-on experience in lensometer, frame measurements, and patient measurements. Students practice frame standard and anatomical alignments and repairs. ANSI standards are presented and students' projects are checked according to the standards. Students are introduced to salesmanship and the personal computer. Students gain practical experience utilizing a variety of instructional programs related to theoretical concepts taught in this module.

OPT-4 Soft Contact Lenses*

In this module, students learn about contact lens (CL) terminology and design. They study anatomy and the physiology of the eye as it relates to CL fitting. Diopter power, prescription, and transposition are discussed. Students learn the effect of vertex distance on lens power. Refractive errors are presented. Students learn to fit, insert, and remove soft CLs. Students study the proper care system for these lenses. Students gain hands-on practice with keratometer, slit lamp, and other related instruments to verify CL parameters. Students are introduced to various complications and medical problems related to CL wear. ANSI standards are presented, and customer service and follow-up schedules are discussed.

OPT-5 Rigid Contact Lenses*

In this module, students learn about contact lens (CL) terminology and design. They study anatomy and the physiology of the eye as it relates to CL fitting. Diopter power, prescription, and transposition are discussed. Students learn the effect of vertex distance on lens power. Refractive errors are presented, and they study the proper care system for these lenses. Students gain hands-on practice with keratometer, slit lamp, and other related instruments to verify CL parameters. Students are introduced to various complications and medical conditions that require specialty contact lens fitting. Keratoconus management is discussed. Presbyopia and multi-focal contact lenses are discussed. ANSI standards are presented, and customer service and follow-up schedules are discussed.

OPT-6 Anatomy/Physiology/Prisms*

This module starts with an introduction to anatomy and physiology of the eye. Different lens designs, prescription, true powers, transposition, metric system, and diopter power are discussed. Students learn to calculate the horizontal and vertical powers. Refractive errors are discussed. Prentice's Rule is introduced and students calculate induced prism. Strabismus is discussed and students learn about prescribed prism. Students receive hands-on experience in lensometry, frame measurements, and patient measurements. Students practice the steps required to fabricate a pair of glasses with prescribed prisms. ANSI standards are presented and students' projects are checked according to the standards. Students learn how to tint lenses and students practice salesmanship through role-playing. Students are introduced to the personal computer and gain experience utilizing a variety of instructional programs related to theoretical concepts taught in this module.

OPT-7 Optical Office Procedures*

This module starts with lectures on anatomy, physiology, and medical disorders. Students learn about lens aberrations, calculation of the best base curves, and how to use the lens clock. Metric system and diopter power are discussed. Students learn about prescriptions, true powers, and transposition. Students receive hands-on practice in lensometer, frame measurements, and patient measurements. Students practice the steps required to fabricate and tint rimless and nylon-chord glasses. ANSI standards are presented and students' projects are checked according to the standards. Students learn duties of optical office and practice salesmanship through role-playing. Students learn about HIPAA and vision care billing. Students practice adjustments and repair frames using hand tools. Students are introduced to the personal computer and gain experience utilizing a variety of instructional programs related to theoretical concepts taught in this module.

OPT-EXT Externship

The externship course enables students to demonstrate and reinforce the knowledge and skills presented and practiced throughout the training program. Externs work under the direct supervision of qualified personnel at the externship site and under the supervision of College staff. Externs are evaluated by supervisory personnel, and the evaluations are placed in the students' permanent record. Optical students must complete their externship training to fulfill graduation requirements.

Prerequisites: OPT-1, OPT-2, OPT-3, OPT-4, OPT-5, OPT-6, OPT-7

Optical Technician

Accreditation

ACC is institutionally accredited by the **Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES)**.

ABHES: 7777 Leesburg Pike, Suite 314N, Falls Church, VA 22043 / Phone (703) 917-9503 / Fax (703) 917-4109 / www.abhes.org

Campus Locations	Ontario	Los Angeles
ACCREDITING BUREAU OF HEALTH EDUCATION SCHOOLS (ABHES)		
Retention Rates		
Based on the calculation required by ACC's accrediting body, ABHES. ABHES defines retention rate as the number of graduates plus students who enrolled as of June 30, 2019 divided by the number of students who were in school from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 and were still enrolled as of July 1, 2018 plus new starts during the reporting period and students who reentered between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019.	94%	87%
Placement Rates		
Based on the calculation required by ACC's accrediting body, ABHES. ABHES defines placement rates as the number of graduates who complete the program during the reporting period (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019) who are graduates who were available for employment and found a job in their field of training.	82%	80%
CALIFORNIA BUREAU FOR PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION (BPPE)		
On-time Completion Rates		
The number of students who completed the program within 100% of the published program length within 2018 divided by the number of students who began the program who were scheduled to complete the program within 100% of the published program length within 2018 and excludes all students who canceled during the cancellation period, minus the number of students who have died, been incarcerated, or been called to active military duty.	45%	45%
Placement Rates		
The number of 2018 graduates gainfully employed in the field divided by the number of graduates available for employment. Graduates employed in the field means graduates who beginning within six months after a student completes the applicable educational program are gainfully employed, whose employment has been reported, and for whom the institution has documented verification of 35 days employment. For occupations for which the state requires passing an examination, the six months' period begins after the announcement of the examination results for the first examination available after a student completes an applicable educational program.	56%	70%
Program Costs		
Includes tuition and fees for the entire program, and assumes normal completion. Tuition and Fees are subject to change.	\$18,950	\$18,950
O*Net Occupation Titles		
	SOC Code	Links to Occupational Profiles on O*Net
Opticians, Dispensing: Optician, Dispensing Optician, Licensed Optician, Optometric Assistant, Certified Optician, Licensed Dispensing Optician, Ophthalmic Dispenser, Optometric Technician, Optical Technician, Contact Lens Technician	29-2081.00	http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/29-2081.00
Ophthalmic Laboratory Technicians: Lab Technician, Optical Technician, Surfacing Technician, Finishing Lab Technician, Lens Grinder and Polisher, Optical Lab Technician, Grinder, Edger Technician, Line Operator, Polisher	51-9083.00	http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/51-9083.00
To obtain a list of the objective sources of information used to substantiate the salary disclosures; please refer to the California Employment Development Department website at: http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/ocguides/Search.asp . ACC cannot guarantee employment. Programs lengths vary by schedule and session.		

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