Health Careers Fact Sheet – Optometry

If you are scientifically curious, self-motivated and socially conscious, optometry may be the right career path for you. As an optometrist, you'll examine the eyes for vision problems and disease by checking for proper depth and color perception, the ability to coordinate and focus the eyes, and other signs. While optometrists usually prescribe glasses or contact lenses, they may also employ corrective eye exercises, therapy, and in some states, drugs to correct vision problems.

Degree
O.D.

Program Length
4 years

Professional Schools' Organization
Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO)

Application Service
Optomcas

Academic Admission Requirements
One year each: Biology, Inorganic Chemistry (Chem 1 & 2), Organic Chemistry, Physics, English. Some schools may also require Calculus. (Individual schools may have specific additional requirements)

Admission Exam
Optometry Admissions Test (OAT)

Recommendation Letters
Letters of recommendation from a pre-health advisor are required, and may be kept confidential. Some schools may require additional letters of support.