



Pre-Optometry Preparation

To prepare for a career in optometry, a student must complete 4 years of education to obtain a Doctor of Optometry (O.D.) degree at a professional college of optometry. Admission is very competitive and each optometry program has slightly different criteria. **It is important to review the pre-requisites for each school and identify which program you wish to apply and plan accordingly.** On average students should maintain a grade point average near 3.40/4.00 or higher, demonstrate leadership skills, expose yourself to the world of optometry, and perform well on the Optometry Admission Test (OAT).

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

English

ENG 1001G 3 ___ Comp & Language
 ENG 1002G 3 ___ Comp & Literature

Social Sciences

PSY 1879 3 ___ Intro to Psychology

Chemistry

CHM 1310/1315G 4 ___ Gen Chem I
 CHM 1410/1415G 4 ___ Gen Chem II
 CHM 2440/2445 4 ___ Org Chem I

All sciences with labs

Biology

BIO 1100G 4 ___ Gen Biology
 BIO 1300G 4 ___ Animal Diversity
 BIO 3300 4 ___ Microbiology

Math

MAT 2250G 4 ___ Elem Statistics
 MAT 1441 5 ___ Calculus

Physics

PHY 1151/1152G 4 ___ Physics I
 PHY 1161/1162G 4 ___ Physics II

Highly Recommended

CHM 2840 3 ___ Org Chem II
 CHM 3450 3 ___ Biochemistry

BIO 2001 4 ___ Physiology
 BIO 2200 4 ___ Anatomy
 BIO 3120 4 ___ Mol. Cell Biology and lab

SAMPLE TIMETABLE**FRESHMAN**

Fall	Spring
ENG 1001	ENG 1002
CHM 1310/1315	CHM 1410/1415
	BIO 1100

SOPHOMORE

Fall	Spring
BIO 1300	MAT 1441
CHM 2440/2445	

JUNIOR

Fall	Spring
CHM 3450	PHY 1161/1162
PHY 1151/1152	

Useful web sites

Assoc of Schools and Colleges of Optometry	http://www.opted.org
Southern College of Optometry (Memphis)	http://www.sco.edu/admissions/Pages/prerequisitecourses.aspx
Illinois College of Optometry	http://www.ico.edu/admissions/apply/preopt_requirements.html
St. Louis College of Optometry	http://www.umsl.edu/~optometry/students/prospstudpag.html
Ohio College of Optometry	http://optometry.osu.edu/futureStudents/requirements.cfm
Indiana College of Optometry	http://www.opt.indiana.edu/programs/od/prereqs.htm

What makes you unique from other applicants?

OPTOMETRIC EXPERIENCE

- Private practice, large chain, partnership with ophthalmologist

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Optometrists are leaders in many cases their communities and certainly in their office, demonstrated leadership skills are a must.

- Campus, church, and community organizations provide excellent leadership opportunities.

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