



# OPTOMETRY

## Doctor of Optometry

The following requirements for the major are subject to change without notice. To assure accuracy of the information on this sheet, you should consult with the Optometry counselor, or review articulation agreements via the Internet at [WWW.ASSIST.ORG](http://WWW.ASSIST.ORG). You may also consult the Articulation Officer for specific articulation agreements.

### CAREER

Optometrists are primary health care providers who diagnose, manage, and treat conditions and diseases of the human eye and visual system. They also prescribe treatment such as corrective lenses, contact lenses or vision therapy. They may practice as independent practitioners, in a group practice, or in a health clinic or hospital. Job opportunities are expanding rapidly.

### ADMISSION INFORMATION

Admission is competitive. College grades and the Optometry Admission Test (OAT) scores are used as preliminary screening. The OAT is offered as a computerized test at Prometric Testing Centers [www.prometric.com](http://www.prometric.com). The OAT tests the following: biology, chemistry, organic chemistry, quantitative ability, physics, and reading comprehension.

Volunteer experience with an optometrist is highly recommended in preparation for optometry school. First, as a prospective optometry professional, you gain valuable insight into your decision whether optometry is the career path for you. Second, you develop the opportunity to receive a letter of support from an optometry professional, a vital element of your application. Letters of recommendation are critical to application process.

Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry [www.opted.org](http://www.opted.org)  
Information on UC Berkeley's Pre-professional preparation can be found at [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org)

### MARSHALL B. KETCHUM UNIVERSITY- SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY FULLERTON [www.ketchum.edu](http://www.ketchum.edu)

Bachelor's degree is required from a regionally accredited university.

**Prerequisites** for the Doctor of Optometry program: Anatomy 32; Physiology 31; Biology 101, 102; Chemistry 1A, 1B, 7A; English 1A, 1B; Math 150, 190; Microbiology 33; Physics 2A, 2B, Psychology 101

Note: Agreement with El Camino College:

<https://www.ketchum.edu/sites/default/files/21-22-Articulation-Agreements/ElCaminoCollege-.pdf>

### UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY <http://optometry.berkeley.edu/>

Bachelor's degree is required from a regionally accredited university.

Students desiring to enter the School of Optometry should arrange to take the OAT between July and the end of November before entrance.

**Required courses:** Anatomy 32; Biology 101-102-103; Chemistry 1A-1B and 7A; English 1A-1B; Math 150 and 190; Microbiology 33; Psychology 101 Physics 3A-3B or 1A-1B-1C; Physiology 31; Biochemistry and Immunology (El Camino College does not offer a comparable course). **Recommended course work:** genetics, molecular/cell biology, physiology/aging, cell biology of eye and mechanisms of ocular disease, integrative biology.

Note: UCB OD Course Requirements: <https://optometry.berkeley.edu/admissions/how-to-apply/course-requirements/>