

WKU PRE-OPTOMETRY INFORMATION

Specialty Average Salary

Optometrist (All)	\$98,000*
Optometrist (Private Practice)	\$175,000 [#]
Optometrist (KY)	\$117,000*

33,100 Practicing Optometrists in U. S.
310 in KY

SOURCE: *U.S. Bureau Labor Statistics
American Optometric Association
ExploreHealthCareers.org

WHAT DO OPTOMETRY SCHOOLS EVALUATE?

- Academic Record
- OAT Score
- Letter of Evaluation (Advisory Committee)
- Personal Statement (OptomCAS Appl.)
- Experience
- Interview

Check out www.opted.org and
<http://www.wku.edu/wkuhpa>
for more info



WKU COURSES FOR PRE-OPT EMPHASIS*

BIOL 120/121 Biological Concepts I (4)
BIOL 122/123 Biological Concepts II (4)
BIOL 226/227 Microbial Biology & Diversity (4)
BIOL/CHEM 446/447 Biochemistry I (5)
CHEM 120/121 College Chemistry I (5)
CHEM 222/223 College Chemistry II (5)
CHEM 340/341 Organic Chemistry I (5)
PHYS 231/232 Physics & Biophysics I (4)
PHYS 322/233 Physics & Biophysics II (4)
MATH 136 Calculus I (4)
MATH 183 Introductory Statistics (3)
or
BIOL 382 Introductory Biostatistics (3)
PSYS 100 Introductory Psychology (3)

Other courses strongly recommended or required by some schools include: Animal/Human Anatomy and Physiology. Courses that will assist in OAT preparation and your first 2 years in optometry school include: Cell/Molecular Biology, Genetics, Cell Biology, Histology, and Immunology.

The Bachelor's Degree requires 120 hours. The major + minor must total at least 54 hours (48 unduplicated). A student may opt for a 48 major with no minor.

* "Pre-opt" is not a major, but is a concentration.

APPLICATION TIMETABLE

Study for the OAT	Now! At least 6 months prior to attempting the test. Preparation is essential.
Register for the OAT	Register early (60-90 days prior) for the date and location you desire (seats are limited). Cost, \$330.
OAT	May - August, 1 year prior to matriculation in optometry school.
OptomCAS Online App.	Primary application to opt school, you may begin working on it in June, and should be submitted July 15th or shortly thereafter. Cost, \$160 + \$60/school.
Pre-Opt Eval Committee	After you complete your application, contact your advisor.
Secondary Applications	Submit as soon as you can adequately complete.
Interviews	As early as late August, as late as March or April.
Acceptances	As early as September 1st and as late as the day before classes begin.

OTHER INFORMATION

- There are 21 optometry schools in the U.S and Puerto Rico
- Your OAT scores are printed out for you at the Thompson Prometric Test Center before you leave.
- KY Legislature supports 14 seats for in-state tuition at Indiana, UAB, and Southern Coll. Opt.
- Get some experience, volunteer, shadow and/or work in an optometric health setting
- Join The Pre-Optometry Club and Alpha Epsilon Delta, the pre-health professions honor society

PRE-OPT ADVISORS: Drs. Ken Crawford, Nancy Rice, Michael Smith, and Ajay Srivastava Biology;
Drs. Eric Conte, Darwin Dahl, Les Pesterfield, Raja Dakshinamurthy, Chemistry, Dr. Wieb Vandermeer, Physics; Mr. Christopher Crutchfield, OCSE Dean's Office