

COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS

Pre-Optometry Advisement Guide

Doctors of Optometry are primary health care providers who diagnose, manage, and treat conditions and diseases of the human eye and visual system as regulated by state law. They may practice as independent practitioners, in a group practice, or in a health clinic or hospital. Optometry schools may require the Bachelor's Degree for admission. The Optometry Admission Test (OAT) must be taken by all applicants. For more information on this exam, go to www.opted.org/info_oat.cfm. A full description of specific requirements may be found at the websites of the Optometry schools in California listed below. For information on other schools in the United States, go to www.opted.org.

California Schools of Optometry

Southern California College of Optometry (www.scco.edu/)

University of California, Berkeley School of Optometry (<http://spectacle.berkeley.edu/>)

TYPICAL LOWER-DIVISION REQUIREMENTS THAT MIGHT BE COMPLETED AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- 1 –2 semesters General Chemistry (with lab) (depending on school) (Preparatory College Chemistry is a prerequisite)
- 1-2 semesters Organic Chemistry (with lab)
- 1 semester Biochemistry (depending on school)
- 1 year General Biology (major-level with lab)
- 1-2 semesters Calculus (depending on school)
- 1 year Physics (with lab)
- 1 year English Composition
- 1 semester Statistics
- 1 – 2 semesters Psychology (depending on school)
- 1 semester Microbiology (with lab)
- Anatomy and Physiology (with lab) (depending on school)

NOTE: It is important that students meet with a counselor to develop an educational plan in conjunction with the requirements listed above and the transfer to a university to earn either the necessary units or a Bachelor's Degree.

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