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## Health Professions | Optometry Admissions Timeline

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### *Academic Factors*

Admissions committees are looking for solid academic performance in both your overall and science GPA.

Successful Applicant Average GPA 3.5
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### *Non Academic Factors*

Applicants to optometry school should demonstrate genuine experiences in the following areas: career exploration and shadowing, leadership, extracurricular activities, a diversity of community/volunteer service, and an awareness of current issues.

### *Optometry Admission Test (OAT)*

The OAT is a computerized test taken in certain testing centers that is offered throughout the year. The program is designed to test optometry school applicants on general academic ability and comprehension of scientific information. All optometry schools require applicants to take the OAT.

Successful Applicant Average OAT 330
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For more information or to register for the Optometry Admission Test (OAT) go to:  
[www.opted.org](http://www.opted.org)

### *Optometry Centralized Application Service*

All optometry schools use OptomCAS as a centralized application service. It opens July 15<sup>th</sup>. For more information about applying to optometry school go to:  
<http://www.optomcas.org/>

### *Optometry School Timeline*

#### **Freshman**

- Visit the Health Professions Website
- Review the prerequisites you need for optometry school
- Schedule the major and prerequisite classes you need to take using the **Grad Plan Tool** (note that you should review the course catalogue to ensure classes are available during the semester you have planned to take them)
- Explore the optometry field and look for shadowing opportunities
- Take the Health Professions Workshops

#### **Sophomore**

- Explore the optometry field and shadow different areas of optometry
- Plan when you will take the OAT
- Research optometry schools (call them and ask questions)
- Build good relationships with professors, supervisors, and optometrists for future letters of recommendation
- Begin writing Personal Statement
- Take the Health Professions Workshops

#### **Junior**

- Start studying for the OAT
- Start to fill out the OptomCAS application.
- Continue to explore the optometry field
- Participate in community service
- Edit and review Personal Statement with your advisor
- Take the OAT
- Ask 3 or more people to write you a letter of recommendation
- Research optometry schools you are applying to and review each school's admissions timetable
- Submit your OptomCAS application
- Know current optometry issues
- Visit optometry schools if possible

#### **Senior**

- Prepare for your interviews by visiting with career services and participating in mock interviews
- Research Financial Aid options
- Know current optometry issues