

PRE-OPTOMETRY ADVISING AT U.K.

<http://www.uky.edu/UGS/centadv/preprof.html>

Central Advising Service
109 Miller Hall

Pre-Professional Advisors

Freshmen & Sophomores

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Juniors & Seniors

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Services Provided:

- A list of required prerequisite courses for optometry schools in the U. S.
- Help with planning the schedule of pre-professional courses with the requirements of your major
- Guidance for volunteer work and medical-related experiences
- Connections to the pre-professional organizations on campus
- Suggestions for preparation and when to take the OAT (Optometry Admission Test)
- Information regarding the application process and letter of recommendation service

Schedule an Appointment

Meet with a pre professional advisor at least twice during the Freshman/Sophomore years and at least three times during the Junior/Senior years. Pre-professional advisors have sign-up sheets posted beside their office doors in Miller Hall. Pre-professional advisors **do not** schedule pre-professional advising appointments during fall and spring priority registration or during summer advising conferences (June-July).

Pre-Professional Listserve

Central Advising Service posts information about pre-medical, pre-dental, pre-optometry and pre-podiatry to the Pre-Med listserv. If you would like to subscribe email a message to listserv@lsv.uky.edu. In the body of the text type: **SUBSCRIBE PRE-MED-L**

PRE-OPTOMETRY INFORMATION

A GENERAL SURVEY OF THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION TO THE SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES OF OPTOMETRY

If you are planning to apply to a school or college of optometry, use this sheet only as a guide. It is important that you do not interpret this guideline as a definitive statement regarding the admission requirements or policies of the schools and colleges of optometry. Each institution publishes its own school catalog, which specifies its own procedures. **IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU OBTAIN A CATALOG FROM THE SPECIFIC SCHOOL OR COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY YOU PLAN TO ATTEND.** The Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO) is an excellent resource, students considering optometry should become familiar with their website: www.opted.org.

PRE-OPTOMETRIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS

There are certain college-level courses that all schools and colleges of optometry require you to take before you can be considered for admission. Use these courses only as a guide.

		<u>UK Equivalent</u>
General Biology or Zoology	1 sem—1 year	(BIO 150, 151, 152, 153)
Microbiology	1 sem	(BIO 208 or BIO 308 &/or 209)
General Chemistry	1 year	(CHE 105,111,107,113)
Organic Chemistry	1 sem—1 year	(CHE 230, 231, 232, 233)
General Physics	1 year	(PHY 211 & PHY 213)
English	1 year	(ENG 104 & 200-level or above writing-intensive courses)
Calculus	1 sem—1 year	(MA 123, MA 113, MA 132)
Statistics	1 sem	(STA 291)
Psychology	1 sem—1 year	(PSY 100)
The following courses are required or recommended:		
Physiology	1 sem—1 year	(PGY 206, PGY 412G, or BIO 350)
Anatomy	1 sem	(ANA 209)
Biochemistry	1 sem	(BCH401G)

There are additional course requirements, however, which vary with each school or college. Consult each school's catalog.

The science courses you take should be those designed for pre-professional students. Brief survey courses in the sciences will not prepare you for optometry school. Most science courses must include laboratory experience.

All optometry schools and colleges require applicants to take the Optometry Admissions Test (OAT). The OAT is a standardized examination which includes 4 tests: Survey of the Natural Sciences (Biology, General Chemistry, and Organic Chemistry), Reading Comprehension, Physics and Quantitative Reasoning. The pre-professional courses in biology, general chemistry, organic chemistry, and physics should be taken prior to taking the OAT.

Application deadlines vary from November 30 to April 1. Early applications are desirable. Contact the school(s) or college(s) of your choice for application instructions and forms. The Commonwealth of Kentucky currently has contracts with the University of Alabama, Indiana University, and Southern College of Optometry (Memphis). Contract availability is subject to change, for more information contact specific optometry schools. Currently recipients of these contracts pay in-state tuition at the school where enrolled.

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