

Pre-optometry at Clemson University

Plan your path

Core prerequisites checklist for many optometry programs:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Organic chemistry
- Physics
- Anatomy and physiology
- Microbiology
- Calculus
- Statistics

The optometry admission test consists of four parts:

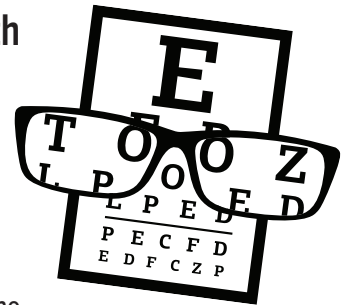
- Survey of natural sciences
- Reading comprehension
- Physics
- Quantitative reasoning

Prerequisites vary by school. Please refer to your preferred school's website for detailed requirement information.



Doctors of Optometry are independent primary health care providers who examine, diagnose, treat and manage disease and disorders of the visual system, an occupation that is growing.

There are many reasons students choose optometry as a career. Optometry is the nation's third largest independent health care profession and ranked as one of the top 10 income-earning professions. Many optometrists enjoy the independence and autonomy of owning their own practice and being in control of their own time.



Applying to optometry school

Optometry schools are looking for well-rounded students who are academically strong. They look for motivated students who participate in extracurricular activities, such as school clubs, part-time jobs, shadowing optometrists and volunteering. Students should exhibit attention to detail, have strong time management skills and excel at customer service. Students with superior hand-eye coordination and manual dexterity, often developed through activities such as drawing, painting, woodcarving, sewing, mechanics or playing an instrument, are valued in optometry school. They also look for students who communicate well, are comfortable with close personal interaction, have research experience and are comfortable with close personal interaction.

Gain experience

- ▶ Job shadow in an optometry office
- ▶ Apply for internships or volunteer in a community clinic
- ▶ Seek opportunities for research experience

Find out more

The American Optometric Association provides resources for students considering optometry as a career.

- ▶ Visit aoa.org for more information.

Optometry career options

- ▶ Solo practice
- ▶ Group practice
- ▶ Government/military
- ▶ Public health
- ▶ Hospital
- ▶ Clinic
- ▶ Academia

Contracted optometry school for South Carolina residents

- ▶ Southern College of Optometry



To learn more, connect with the Clemson pre-optometry club
Instagram: [@clemsonpreoptometryclub](https://www.instagram.com/clemsonpreoptometryclub)

Or contact Health Professions Advising
Email: cuhpa@clemson.edu



Optometry school matriculation profile

Accepted undergraduate students by major

■ College of Science ■ College of Engineering, Computing and Applied Sciences

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

College of Engineering, Computing and Applied Sciences

1

PSYCHOLOGY

College of Behavioral, Social and Health Sciences

1

Average GPA

of accepted Clemson students

3.9

3.5

National average GPA

of accepted students

Average OAT

of accepted Clemson students

375

321

National average OAT

of accepted students

Average acceptance rate

National average

72%

Clemson average

100%

Clemson average is higher than the national average

Source: OptomCAS

+28%

Where students matriculate

Students most frequently attend these schools after Clemson:

Southern College of Optometry

Projected growth in employment

2021–31: 10%

\$133,100

average optometrist salary

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2022

CLEMSON
UNIVERSITY

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