

The Pennsylvania College of Optometry (PCO) follows a legacy that began in 1919, when PCO created a four-year degree program that set the standard for all other institutions of optometry that exist today. During our more than a century-long and proud history, PCO has pioneered some of the most influential innovations in post-graduate optometric education worldwide.

DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY

TRADITIONAL PROGRAM

Why Salus?

- Early hands-on clinical experience and an extensive externship program
- Small group learning experiences
- Program can be enhanced with advanced studies and elective courses and/or a residency program
- The Eye Institute (TEI) and its satellites serve as PCO's clinical teaching facilities where students collaborate with optometrists, ophthalmologists, opticians and optometric technicians
- Newest technology, including a virtual reality lab

ADMISSIONS CHECKLIST

- ☐ Complete an application at OptomCAS
- ☐ Complete the supplemental application by taking the CASPer Assessment Test
- ☐ Complete at least 90 undergraduate semester hours (or equivalent quarter hours)
- ☐ Complete the prerequisite coursework with a grade of 'C-' or higher
- ☐ Take the Optometry Admissions Test (OAT) (alternate exams also accepted include the GRE, MCAT, DAT, or PCAT)
- ☐ Submit three letters of recommendation
- ☐ Shadow a practicing optometrist(s) or ophthalmalogist(s) for a minimum of 25 hours

For specific details on the above admissions requirements and deadlines, visit salus.edu/admissions



Job Outlook/Professional Highlights

Optometry is a dynamic and challenging profession that provides practitioners the opportunity to help people and, at the same time, achieve personal growth, gain community respect, enjoy a great worklife balance and financial success.

- Optometry is one of top 10 income-earning professions in the country today
- Optometrists diagnose and treat eye diseases, prescribe optical devices, direct pre-and post-operative care of refractive and laser surgery patients, help children with learning disabilities through vision training, and provide vision rehabilitation services to people with severe vision impairments

Professional options include:

- Private and group practice
- Private industry
- Public health services
- Armed Forces
- Community health centers



VIRTUAL CAMPUS TOUR



About Salus

- Commitment to interprofessional education and interdisciplinary training
- Primary care philosophy and holistic approach that assesses the whole patient for prevention, treatment and rehabilitation
- Exceptional clinical training sequence that begins early and includes externships and fieldwork in a variety of healthcare delivery settings
- Innovative learning strategies that include small group, interactive and self-directed learning experiences as well as clinical problem-solving
- Integration of cutting-edge technologies to prepare students for ever-evolving professions
- Commitment to the ongoing professional and personal development and the success of each student