

ADMISSION SELECTION PROCESS

Pennsylvania College of Optometry

Drexel University, Elkins Park Campus

The selection of a candidate for admission to the Pennsylvania College of Optometry Accelerated Scholars Program is based upon the premise, **Does the candidate meet all academic requirements set forth by the College?**; and secondly, **Will the candidate make a "good" Optometrist?**

The Admissions Committee has developed a selection process based upon the questions mentioned above. This process which is referred to as a "Candidate's Profile" is comprised of three indices: (1) Academic Index (A.I.), (2) Personal Index (P.I.), and (3) Interview Index (I.I.).

1

The **ACADEMIC INDEX** (A.I.) evaluates the candidate's academic ability. The criteria consists of grade point averages (specifically prerequisite, science and overall), major, number of college credits completed, degree status, number of shadowing hours and OAT scores. The objective criteria are weighed according to recommendations of the Admissions Committee. The weighing of each criterion is privileged information which is restricted to Admissions Committee members. If a candidate's A.I. falls within an acceptable range, the candidate is requested to come for an interview.

2

The **PERSONAL INDEX** (P.I.) evaluates the candidate's acceptability from a personal standpoint and takes into consideration the presentation of the candidate's overall file to include letters of recommendation, motivation for the profession exemplified through optometric/ophthalmic shadowing or work experience and the personal statement.

3

The **INTERVIEW INDEX** (I.I.) The Interview Index is determined based on the applicant's score during the multiple mini-interview process which explores the candidate's abilities in a variety of non-traditional interview scenarios. Each candidate is interviewed by the same interviewers for that interview date, and each mini-interview lasts no longer than 8 minutes. Each candidate is provided the same case scenario by the same interviewer. The candidate has 2 minutes to read and process the scenario and then 8 minutes to engage the interviewer in a conversation about the scenario. The candidate's performance is evaluated on a scale of 1 (not acceptable) to 10 (excellent) for each mini-interview station. The candidate receives an Interview Index based on the average of their scores at each of the stations. The candidate then meets with an admissions counselor to review their application file and discuss items that may need further explanation.

After the interview, the Admissions Committee will evaluate the findings of the candidate's profile (A.I., P.I., and I.I.) and make a recommendation to the Director of Admissions regarding the candidate's acceptability status. The Admissions Committee meets regularly to review applications and tries to provide decisions to candidates within two weeks of their scheduled interview.

Drexel University complies with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and all other applicable federal, state, or local laws regarding unlawful discrimination. Drexel University prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, genetic information, veteran status, disability and any other characteristic protected by state law, federal law, or local ordinance in hiring, employment opportunities, education programs, and any other activities sponsored by the University.