

Optometric Residency In Pediatric Optometry/Vision Therapy

PROGRAM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal 1. To recruit qualified graduating or graduate optometrists to fill the class.

Objectives:

- a. A commitment for funding will be made by the Pennsylvania College of Optometry through its annual budgeting process such that resident salaries are commensurate with the current market each year and that an appropriate budget is in place to support the program.
- b. The residency mission statement along with program information will be published on-line that includes a description of the program, employment benefits, sample schedules and application procedures. The written catalog will be sent electronically when requested by interested candidates.
- c. Advertisements will be placed in the *AOA Foresight*, flyers will be sent to all accredited optometry schools. Flyers, and when possible a representative, will be present at the and AAO meetings for recruitment purposes.
- d. A committee will be convened to interview all qualified candidates, either in person or on the phone. All interviews will be completed by the end of February. Ranking of candidates will be completed by the end of February.
- e. Candidates will be offered positions in rank order until all positions are filled in accordance with the Optometry Residency Matching (ORMatch) system.

Goal 2. To train the entry-level graduate optometrist to provide competent and efficient care to the routine pediatric and infant patient through the application and elevation of knowledge and skills.

Objectives:

- a. The resident will be assigned to the Pediatrics and Binocular Vision Service in The Eye Institute an average of three and one half days a week to provide direct care and to supervise optometry students in the examination and management of children and infants.
- b. The resident will examine, diagnose, and develop management plans for children and infants with various vision conditions.

c. The resident will be proficient in the use of a variety of tests to assess visual function in children and infants using both subjective and objective tests.

Goal 3. To prepare the resident to competently diagnose and manage accommodative and non-strabismic binocular vision disorders in patients of all ages.

Objectives:

- a. The resident will demonstrate enhanced skill in the performance and interpretation of tests to evaluate binocular vision, accommodation, and ocular motility, including the following:
 - 1) Vergence amplitudes and facility
 - 2) Accommodative amplitude and facility
 - 3) Fixation disparity testing
 - 4) Eye movement assessment
- b. The resident will demonstrate enhanced skill in the planning and implementation of vision therapy for patients with accommodative/non-strabismic binocular vision disorders

Goal 4. To prepare the resident to competently diagnose and manage amblyopia and strabismus.

Objectives:

- a. The resident will demonstrate enhanced skill in the assessment of amblyopia using current technology to assess visual acuity, eccentric fixation, accommodation and eye movement ability.
- b. The resident will demonstrate enhanced skill in the motor and sensory assessment of strabismus using cover testing, and objective and subjective assessments of comitancy, ARC, suppression, and stereopsis testing.
- c. The resident will demonstrate enhanced skill in the planning and implementation of vision therapy for patients with amblyopia and strabismus.

Goal 5. To prepare the resident to competently diagnose and manage learning related vision problems.

Objectives:

- a. The resident will demonstrate enhanced skill in the performance and interpretation of tests to evaluate learning related vision problems, including the following:
 - 1) Visual spatial analysis skills
 - 2) Visual analysis skills
 - 3) Visual motor-intergration skills

- 4) Attention and concentration
- 5) Intelligence screening
- 6) Reading screening

- b. The resident will demonstrate enhanced skill in the planning and implementation of vision therapy for patients with learning related vision disorders.

Goal 6. To develop the knowledge and skills necessary for the evaluation, diagnosis, and management of patients with vision disorders secondary to head trauma, stroke, and other brain damage.

Objective:

- a. The resident will be to provide direct care to patients with these conditions under the supervision of more experienced clinical faculty in The Eye Institute and/or at an area rehabilitation facility a minimum of 6 days during the year.

Goal 7. To enhance the resident's skills in the diagnosis and management of ocular disease.

Objectives:

- a. The resident will be assigned to Emergency Services an average of one day per month (2 session), both as a direct provider and as a supervisor of optometry interns, to triage and see patients presenting with urgent eye care needs. The resident will also be on-call 4-5 weeks during the year to provide direct care to patients presenting with urgent eye care needs when The Eye Institute is closed.
- b. The resident will be assigned to the Neuro-Ophthalmic Disease Service a minimum of 12 hours to provide direct care in the co-management of patients along with subspecialty optometrists and/or ophthalmologists.

Goal 8. To enhance the resident's ability to co-manage secondary and tertiary care patients through inter-disciplinary consultation and referral.

Objectives:

- a. The resident will have the responsibility of making appropriate referrals for patients to Specialty Services within The Eye Institute and to outside practitioners for consultation and/or management.
- b. The resident will prepare summary reports for patients under their care when required.

Goal 9. To provide a substantive orientation program that will prepare the resident to assume their patient care responsibilities in The Eye Institute.

Objectives:

- a. An orientation program will be held during the first two weeks of the residency. Each resident will attend presentations on and will be provided with a handbook that will include information on:
 - 1) The University calendar and various schedules;
 - 2) The Eye Institute operations
 - 3) Patient care protocols
 - 4) Teaching
 - 5) University systems, such as computers and the library
 - 6) University policies in such areas as sexual harassment, use of University property including computers and the internet, and the inclement weather policy.
 - 7) Electronic Health Records Training
 - 8) HIPAA training

- b. During the orientation, the resident will begin to participate in patient care alongside the faculty and outgoing residents in order to acclimate the resident to the personnel and systems in the services to which the resident will be assigned..

Goal 10. To provide a didactic program throughout the year that will increase the resident's fund of knowledge regarding diagnosis and management of accommodative and binocular vision problems, amblyopia, strabismus, learning related vision disorders, and ocular disease.

Objectives:

- a. Throughout the year, lectures and seminars will be scheduled for the residents, and attendance records will be maintained.

- b. Seminars will be held on a weekly basis for the residents in which clinical faculty will present various topics related to accommodative and binocular vision disorders, amblyopia, strabismus, learning related vision disorders, infants, and pediatric eye care.

- c. Seminars will be held specifically for the residents in which clinical faculty and guest speakers will present various topics related to ocular and systemic disease, advanced prescribing and contact lens considerations, low vision, and pediatrics. Approximately thirty 90-minute presentations will be scheduled during the year.

- d. The resident is required to attend a minimum of 12 hours of presentations by optometric and/or ophthalmologic sub-specialists on the following topics:
 - 1) Emergency patient care
 - 2) Neuro-Ophthalmic Disease

Goal 11. To promote development of the resident's skills as an educator and self-learner.

Objectives:

- a. As part of the orientation, the resident will receive instruction on being a teacher in the clinical setting. The resident will then appropriately supervise patient care by optometry students under the guidance of clinical faculty.
- b. The resident will have the opportunity to hone public speaking skills through participation in the Grand Rounds program during the year by preparing and presenting a case to faculty, residents, students, and local optometrists attending for continuing education credit.
- c. The resident will prepare a paper of publishable quality before the end of the program.

Goal 12. To enhance the resident's professional behavior and interpersonal skills.

Objectives:

- a. The resident will be assigned to various patient care services in which they will demonstrate responsibility, sensitivity, maturity, sound judgement, and ethical behavior toward all people involved in the patient care experience.
- b. In all personal and professional interactions with members of the College community, the resident will demonstrate collegiality and respect.

Goal 13. To provide a suitable environment in which the resident can flourish.

Objectives:

- a. The resident will be supplied with an office that will include a desk, a chair, a telephone, and storage space. The resident will also have access to a computer, including internet access.
- b. The University and The Eye Institute will provide sufficient financial and personnel resources to support the educational objectives of this program.
- c. The University will publish and enforce non-discrimination policies, employee guidelines, and patient rights.