



# ADMISSION SELECTION PROCESS

## SALUS UNIVERSITY

### Pennsylvania College of Optometry

The selection of a candidate for admission to the Salus University Pennsylvania College of Optometry Traditional Program is based upon the premise, **Does the candidate meet all academic requirements set forth by the University?**; 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, college or university attended, number of college credits completed, degree status 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. The criteria taken into consideration includes extra-curricular activities, 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. The optional Computer-Based Assessment for Sampling Personal Characteristics (Casper) Test will also be considered if submitted by the candidate.

**3** The **INTERVIEW INDEX** (I.I.) evaluates the candidate's knowledge, interest and motivation about the profession as well as professional communication skills. The Admissions Committee recommends that the interview be conducted by two faculty members. The interviewers do not have access to the candidate's file prior to the interview and will complete an interview guide questionnaire based upon their impressions of the candidate. They will also rate the candidate according to their recommendations. The candidate then meets with an admissions counselor to review their application file and discuss items that may need further explanation. The admissions counselor will also provide a written narrative and rating regarding impressions of the candidate.

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 his/her scheduled interview.

Salus 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. Salus 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.