

Doctor of Optometry

Traditional Program

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 exists 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.

Why Pennsylvania College of Optometry?

- Early hands-on clinical experience and an extensive externship program with nearly 2,500 patient encounters.
- Small group learning experiences in an environment in which what you learn in the classroom is practiced in labs and applied to actual patients under the supervision of faculty.
- The Eye Institute (TEI) and its satellite location 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 at least 90 undergraduate semester hours (or equivalent quarter hours).
- ☐ Complete the prerequisite coursework with a grade of 'C-' or higher.
- ☐ Take the Optometry Admission Test (OAT). Alternate exams also accepted include the GRE, MCAT, or DAT.
- ☐ Submit three letters of recommendation.
- ☐ Shadow a practicing optometrist(s) or ophthalmologist(s) for a minimum of 25 hours.

For specific details on the above admissions requirements and deadlines, visit ***Drexel.edu/ElkinsPark/Admissions.***

DREXEL UNIVERSITY
Pennsylvania College of Optometry

Drexel.edu/ElkinsPark

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 great work-life balance and financial success.

- 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 therapy, and provide vision rehabilitation services to people with severe vision impairments.
- Optometry is one of the top income-earning professions in the country today.

source: bls.gov

Practice Options Include

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

About Pennsylvania College of Optometry

- Commitment to interprofessional education and interdisciplinary training.
- Primary care philosophy and holistic approach assesses the whole patient for prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.
- Exceptional clinical training sequence that begins early and includes externships 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.



Scan for More Info

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact ***1.800.2.DREXEL*** *or visit* ***Drexel.edu/ElkinsPark/Admissions.***

Drexel University is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE). The Doctor of Optometry (OD) degree program is accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) of the American Optometric Association (AOA).