

Vision Care Technology (Certificate of Achievement)

The Vision Care Technology certificate program introduces students to the field of opticianry. Students receive training in the laboratory techniques of measuring and grinding eyeglasses to prescription and in fitting and final adaptation of eyewear. The curriculum also prepares students for the business administration functions of the profession and to pass the state licensing examination for Ophthalmic Technician and Ophthalmic Dispenser. To be successful in the field, you must combine scientific and clinical skills with the ability to work well with patients. Job opportunities include owning or working in a retail optical dispensary or sales and marketing of ophthalmic materials. Employment prospects are increasing in the profession caused by growth in the elderly population and the trend toward high fashion eyewear. All course work required by the Certificate of Achievement can be applied towards earning an A.A.S. degree in Vision Care Technology. The program is accredited by the Commission on Opticianry Accreditation (COA), P.O. Box 592, Canton, NY, 13617 (Phone: 703-468-0566).

Program Requirements

MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS

[BIO 125](#) Anatomy & Physiology of the Eye (3 credits)
[OPH 123](#) Ophthalmic Laboratory I (4 credits)
[OPH 124](#) Ophthalmic Laboratory II (4 credits)
[OPH 126](#) Ophthalmic Materials I (3 credits)
[OPH 127](#) Ophthalmic Materials II (3 credits)
[OPH 201](#) Ophthalmic Dispensing I (5 credits)
[OPH 202](#) Ophthalmic Dispensing II (5 credits)
[OPH 203](#) Contact Lenses I (3 credits)
[PHY 111](#) Theory of Optics I (3 credits)

ADDITIONAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A New Jersey Apprentice Dispensing Permit should be obtained so that the Certificate of Achievement will qualify the student for taking the State licensing examination. The minimum passing grade for all courses is "C." If you earn a grade below "C," you need to repeat that course.

RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE OF COURSES

Total Credits Required for Certificate of Achievement: 33

First Semester

[OPH 123](#) Ophthalmic Laboratory I (4 credits)
[OPH 126](#) Ophthalmic Materials I (3 credits)

Second Semester

[OPH 124](#) Ophthalmic Laboratory II (4 credits)

[OPH 127](#) Ophthalmic Materials II (3 credits)

Third Semester

[OPH 201](#) Ophthalmic Dispensing I (5 credits)

[OPH 203](#) Contact Lenses I (3 credits)

Fourth Semester

[OPH 202](#) Ophthalmic Dispensing II (5 credits)

Fifth Semester

[PHY 111](#) Theory of Optics I (3 credits)

Sixth Semester

[BIO 125](#) Anatomy & Physiology of the Eye (3 credits)