

Pacific University College of Optometry

Forest Grove, OR



Mission Statement

- The mission of the College of Optometry is to promote excellence in vision and eye care through education, service, and research. We educate students to become highly competent practitioners, to render professional and ethical care, to understand their professional role in public service and the health care community, to analyze new information critically, and to advance vision and eye care through scientific inquiry.

Pacific EyeClinic Beaverton

- First 3D Performance Eye Clinic
- THX, Intel
- State-of-the-art technology, including a movie theatre to measure the performance of binocular vision performance
- first-ever clinic that specializes in diagnosing and managing the eye and health-related symptoms related to viewing 3D electronic displays
- Comprehensive eye services to patients, including primary care, contact lens fitting, treatment of eye infections, glaucoma and cataract management, visual field testing, retinal photography and imaging, and emergency eye care services

Class of 2014

Class Profile for the Class of 2014, entering Fall 2010

Total applications	450-500
Class size:	90
Men	40
Women	50
Average age	24
Age range	20-54
Average Cumulative GPA	3.51 (range admitted from 2.85-4.0)
Average Total Science OAT	339

Twenty-two states are represented, along with four Canadian provinces.

NBEO

- Pacific Class of 2010 Pass Rate for first-time test takers on the March 2009 Applied Basic Science (ABS) exam was **97.7%** compared to the **91.7%** national average.
- The Class of 2011's ABS pass rate was **95.18%** for Part I of the Board exam compared to the national average of **92.12%**.

Unique to Pacific

- **Master of Education (M.Ed.):** Visual Function in Learning program is designed to provide specialized study to qualify the optometrist as an education vision consultant. The M.Ed. and O.D. degrees may be pursued concurrently or separately.
- **M.S. Vision Science degree:** Successful graduates of the O.D. program can complete this research-oriented Master's degree in just one year.



Overview of Application

- **strongly** encourages early application.
- Strength and breadth of academic record.
- The OAT must be taken by February 1, 2012.
- Essay responses.
- minimum of 30 hours of unpaid observation with an optometrist **prior to application**.
- Strength of letters of evaluation: one must be from an optometrist and one must be from a professor
- Content of application forms and the care with which they have been prepared.
- Extracurricular and community activities.
- Demonstrated English proficiency is required of all applicants whose first language is not English.

Deadlines

- OptomCAS application + Pacific University Supplemental Application + OAT Scores = **complete application**
- Fall 2011 Application Cycle – **July 1, 2011 through February 15, 2012**
- Application Deadline: February 15 (for all application materials)
 - Please note: it can take 4-6 weeks to your OptomCAS application once it is submitted. Submit your OptomCAS application early!

Part 1: OptomCAS

- **Evaluation Forms/References –**
 - OD
 - Professor who has taught you in college.
- **The Personal Statement –**
 - This statement **should not** be repeated or rephrased within the Pacific University Supplemental Application essay questions.
- **Official College and University Transcripts –**
 - Official transcripts from every institution you have attended should be submitted directly to OptomCAS.
- **The OAT –**
 - OAT scores should be self-reported (if possible) on the OptomCAS Application. Official scores must be sent directly to Pacific University.
- **The TOEFL Exam –**
 - (for applicants whose first language is other than English) Official Scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) are required to be submitted to OptomCAS. The College of Optometry requires a minimum TOEFL score of: 600 paper-based, 250 computer-based or 105 internet-based, with minimum sub-section scores. More information about the English Proficiency Policy can be found within Pacific University's supplemental application.

Part 2: PUCO Supplemental Application

- **Fee –**
 - A non-refundable supplemental application fee of \$25 (US) must be submitted with the application.
 - fee waived by a Pacific University College of Optometry alumnus.
- **Applicant Information and Signature Page**
- **Essays –**
 - No limits have been placed on essay length to allow for individual choice.
- **Clinical Experience**
 - minimum of 30 hours of unpaid, volunteer observation with an optometrist prior to application. All observation hours must be with an optometrist who is not related to you. A variety of settings is strongly encouraged. You will report these hours in Pacific's Supplemental Application however no formal documentation is required. We may contact the optometrists you observed to confirm the hours reported on your application.
- **Re-applicants** - additional essay
- **Prerequisite Worksheet** - Enter coursework you have completed or plan to complete by the start of the program in August 2011.
- **The Bachelor's Degree Completion Option Form** -- The Bachelor's Degree Option section is to be completed only by applicants who will not have a bachelor's degree when they begin classes at Pacific University College of Optometry in August, 2011.
- **The OAT –**
 - February 1 in order for your application to be considered. OAT scores should be self-reported (if possible) on the OptomCAS Application. Official scores must be sent directly to Pacific University.
- **"Last 45" GPA Calculation Form –**
 - Calculate your most recent 45 semester credits (68 quarter credits) of coursework. This can include any coursework completed beyond a bachelor degree. Quarter hours must be converted to semester hours.

Pre-requisite Worksheet

- Beginning with applicants for Fall 2011 entry to the College of Optometry, note:
 - **One semester of biochemistry, with lab, will be accepted as a substitute for the second semester of organic chemistry with lab.** Thus, applicants can complete the Chemistry requirement with either:
 - a full year of General Chem with lab plus a full year of Organic Chemistry with lab
 - OR
 - a full year of General Chem with lab plus one semester of Organic Chemistry with lab and one semester of Biochemistry with lab
 - **The English requirement has been reduced from 9 semester hours to 6 semester hours (two classes)**



Cost and Financial Aid

- Apply for FAFSA early!!! And work-study
 - You can get food stamps!!! wOo hOo!
- Scholarships

Tuition For First Academic Year:	\$30,432
Books and Supplies:	\$6,080
*Housing and Board:	\$9,560

InSight

- July
- educate **undergraduate minority pre-health students** about the optometric profession through a 3-day, in-residence experience on Pacific University's Forest Grove campus
- **workshops, info sessions, case conferences and social events** that prepare students to competitively finish up the pre-health curriculum and be a strong applicant to the graduate health program of their choice.

My Application

- Submitted Oct 31
- 10 schools
- Internships: 2
- Volunteering: UCDCMC, Kaiser, Sutter
- LOR: Spanish Teacher, BIS 101, Work
- Essay: 21 drafts
- Interviews

Day in the Life

- Wake up
- Classes
- Labs
- Clinic Assist
- Midterms
- Finals
- Weekends

Helpful websites for interviews

- <http://www.pacificu.edu/optometry/index.cfm>
- <http://www.studentdoctor.net/schools/?view=optometry>