

OPTOMETRIST

"Optometry" - The science and art of examining the human eye, analyzing the ocular function, prescribing and dispensing ophthalmic lenses, prisms, contact lenses and their accessories and solutions, low vision aids, and similar appliances and devices, conducting ocular exercises, vision training, orthoptics, installing prosthetics, using authorized diagnostic pharmaceutical agents (DPA), and other preventive or corrective measures or procedures for the aid, correction, rehabilitation or relief of the human eye, or to attain maximum vision and comfort.

THE FUNCTION

- (a) Comprehensive Eye and Vision Examination ;
- (b) Detect ocular diseases and visual anomalies with the use of specific topical diagnostic pharmaceutical agents or drugs;
- (c) Dispense ophthalmic prescription lenses, contact lenses, low vision aids and safety goggles to correct error of refraction for the eyes to see clearly at far and near;



d) Conduct ocular exercises, vision therapy and rehabilitation procedures to correct abnormalities of the human vision;

(e) Provide cosmetic contact lenses for corneal opacities and ocular prosthesis after eye removal surgery;

(f) Counseling of patients with regard to vision and eye care and hygiene;

SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

- Knowledge in Optics, Human Eye and Vision Development;
- Clinical skills in Ocular Integrity and Visual Efficiency assessment;

- Analytical skills to provide best optometric management for ocular and visual anomalies;
- Excellent inter-personal relationship with patients
- Ability to make sound decisions on professional standards and personal judgement

BASIC EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENT

A holder of a degree in Doctor of Optometry and a passer of the government licensure examinations for Optometrists conducted by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) can apply for the job of an Optometrist.

SCHOOLS OF OPTOMETRY

Cebu Doctors Colleges
Centro Escolar University
Davao Doctors Center
Lyceum Northwestern University
Manila Central University
Southwestern University

COST OF EDUCATION

The six (6) year course tuition fee including miscellaneous fees range from P40,000.00 to P50,000.00 plus per semester as of 2017..

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

An Optometrist may work as any of the following:

- Educator
- Researcher/Scientist
- General Practitioner
- Optometry Specialist
- Clinic Administrator
- Manager/Entrepreneur
- Social Mobilizer

There is a very great demand for optometry services locally and internationally. In the Philippines, the incidence of visual disorders is increasing among the younger generation because of the increasing near activity tasks brought about by the high technology electronic devices commonly used. Students with squinting, motility problems, lazy eyes and learning difficulties would demand for an optometrist in vision development. Most young adults at the age of 40 years old and older will experience difficulty at near and thus would need the services of optometrists. Ocular safety in workplaces would demand occupational health optometrists. Schools, industries and communities need to have an optometrist to assure clear eyesight among the general population.

OPTOMETRIST'S Specialization Areas



OPTOMETRIST'S CLINICAL COMPETENCY STANDARD FOR THE EYE HEALTH AND VISION CARE OF THE FILIPINO PEOPLE

