PRE-OPTOMETRY MANUAL

2016

For More Information Contact:

Nina Flanagan or Erin Neal
Health Professions Advisors
Florida State University
College of Medicine
(850) 644-7678

Pre-health Advising website:
http://med.fsu.edu/index.cfm?page=advisingOutreach.home
Optometry website: www.opted.org
GENERAL PRE-OPTOMETRY PREREQUISITES

General Education 90 Hours to BS
General Biology (for Science Majors with lab) 8 Semester Hours
General Chemistry (for Science Majors with lab) 8 Semester Hours
Organic Chemistry (with lab) 4 Semester Hours
Physics (with lab) 8 Semester Hours
Statistics (strongly recommended) 3 Semester Hours
Calculus 3 Semester Hours
Anatomy and Physiology 3 Semester Hours
Microbiology 3 Semester Hours
Biochemistry 3 Semester Hours
Social/Behavioral Sciences 15 Semester Hours

*This list is based on Nova Southeastern University’s list of prerequisites and should be used only as a
guideline. Each optometry school has its own list of prerequisites and interested students should contact
these programs to request the listing.

SPECIFIC FLORIDA STATE COURSES

BIOLOGY
BSC 2010 Biology I 3 Semester Hours
BSC 2010L Biology I Lab 1 Semester Hour
BSC 2011 Biology II 3 Semester Hours
BSC 2011L Biology II Lab 1 Semester Hour
MCB 2004 Microbiology for Health Services 3 Semester Hours
MCB 2004L Microbiology for Health Services Lab 1 Semester Hour

CHEMISTRY
CHM 1045 General Chemistry I 3 Semester Hours
CHM 1045L General Chemistry I Lab 1 Semester Hour
CHM 1046 General Chemistry II 3 Semester Hours
CHM 1046L General Chemistry II Lab 1 Semester Hour
CHM 2210 Organic Chemistry I 3 Semester Hours
CHM 2211 Organic Chemistry II (Recommended) 3 Semester Hours
CHM 2211L Organic Chemistry II Lab 3 Semester Hours

BIOCHEMISTRY
BCH 3023 or BCH 4053 Biochemistry 3 Semester Hours

PHYSICS
PHY 2053C College Physics A (Trig. Based) 4 Semester Hours
PHY 2054C College Physics B (Trig. Based) 4 Semester Hours

MATH
MAC 2311 Calculus w/Analytical Geometry I 4 Semester Hours

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY
PET 3322 or BSC 2085 Anatomy & Physiology 3 Semester Hours
PRE-OPTOMETRY INFORMATION

- Optometry Schools in the U.S.: 21
- Optometry Schools in Florida: 1 Nova Southeastern University (www.optometry.nova.edu)

- Minimal Requirements for Entrance:
  - General Biology (with lab) 6-8 Semester Hours
  - General Chemistry (with lab) 6-8 Semester Hours
  - Organic Chemistry (with lab) 4 Semester Hours
  - Physics (with lab) 8 Semester Hours
  - Calculus 3 Semester Hours
  - Microbiology (with lab) 3 Semester Hours
  - Biochemistry 3 Semester Hours

- Degree/Major: Any major is acceptable as long as the student meets the minimal entrance requirements listed above.

- Selection Factors: Applications are evaluated on the basis of their academic performance, OAT score, clinical exposure/experience, extra-curricular activities and personal interview.

- Admission Test: Optometry Admission Test (OAT) www.ada.org/en/oat
  The test is a computerized exam offered year round with a 90 day wait period between testing dates. The test is required by all optometry schools. The OAT consists of four sections: Survey of Natural Sciences (Biology, Chemistry, and Organic Chemistry), Reading Comprehension, Physics, and Quantitative Reasoning. The application and exam guide are available at the website www.opted.org. The test fee is $390 which includes score reports sent to 5 optometry schools. The OAT is administered at the Prometric Testing Center (Tallahassee). After the completed application and fee have been processed, a letter will be sent to the examinee from the test center. The student can then call the test center to register for the OAT. The OAT takes 4 ½-5 hours to complete.

- Application Service: All U.S. optometry schools use OptomCAS for submission of applications. The application fee is $160 for the first school and $60 for each additional school requested. www.optomcas.org

- Letters of Evaluation: Most schools require 2 letters of evaluation: One from faculty (or Pre-Health Advisor) and one from an optometrist with whom you have volunteered.