



PRE-OPTOMETRY PREPARATION

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
AT EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

NAME	
E NUMBER	
CATALOG	
AS/AA/ASA DEGREE	
TRANSFER HOURS	

F17

To prepare for a career in optometry, a student must complete 4 years of education to obtain a Doctor of Optometry (O.D.) degree at a professional college of optometry. Admission is very competitive and each optometry program has slightly different criteria. **It is important to review the pre-requisites for each school and identify which program you wish to apply and plan accordingly.** On average students should maintain a grade point average near 3.40/4.00 or higher, demonstrate leadership skills, expose yourself to the world of optometry, and perform well on the Optometry Admission Test (OAT).

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

LANGUAGE*: 6 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
ENG 1001G Composition & Language	3		
ENG 1002G Composition & Literature	3		

BIOLOGY*: 12 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
BIO 1500 General Biology I	4		
BIO 3120 Molecular & Cellular Biology	4		
BIO 3300 Microbiology	4		
<i>Highly Recommended Courses</i>			
BIO 2210 Anatomy & Physiology I	4		
BIO 2220 Anatomy & Physiology II	4		

SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE*: 3 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
PSY 1879G Intro to Psychology	3		

CHEMISTRY*: 18 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
CHM 1310G General Chemistry I	3		
CHM 1315G General Chemistry I Lab	1		
CHM 1410G General Chemistry II	3		
CHM 1415G General Chemistry II Lab	1		
CHM 2440 Organic Chemistry I	3		
CHM 2445 Organic Chemistry I Lab	1		
<i>Highly Recommended Courses</i>			
CHM 2840 Organic Chemistry II	3		
CHM 3450 Biochemistry	3		

MATH*: 3 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
BIO 4750 Statistic Anyl of Sci Data OR MAT 2250G Elementary Statistics	3 4		
MAT 2110G Brief Calculus OR MAT 1441G Calculus I	3 5		

PHYSICS*: 8 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
PHY 1151G Physics I	3		
PHY 1152G Physics I Lab	1		
PHY 1161G Physics II	3		
PHY 1162G Physics II Lab	1		

* Many courses have math prerequisites. Additional prerequisite classes may be required. See Undergraduate Catalog.

WHAT MAKES YOU UNIQUE FROM OTHER APPLICANTS?

Podiatric Experience

- Volunteer or work experience with a specialist is beneficial.
- Diversification of practice is advantageous, if possible: private practice, hospital, surgeon, etc.

Leadership Experience

Optometrists are leaders in their communities and demonstrated leadership skills are a must. Campus, church, and community organizations provide excellent leadership opportunities.

RESOURCES:

Assoc. of Schools and Colleges of Optometry www.opted.org

OAT www.ada.org/oat/index.html

Southern College of Optometry (Memphis)

www.sco.edu/admissions/Pages/prerequisitecourses.aspx

Illinois College of Optometry

www.ico.edu/admissions/apply/preopt_requirements.html

St. Louis College of Optometry

www.umsl.edu/~optometry/students/prospstudpag.html

Ohio College of Optometry

optometry.osu.edu/futureStudents/requirements.cfm

Indiana College of Optometry www.opt.indiana.edu/programs/od/prereqs.htm

CONTACT INFORMATION:

PRE-HEALTH PROFESSIONS ADVISING

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BE PREPARED: UPDATE THIS FORM BEFORE MEETING WITH YOUR ADVISOR