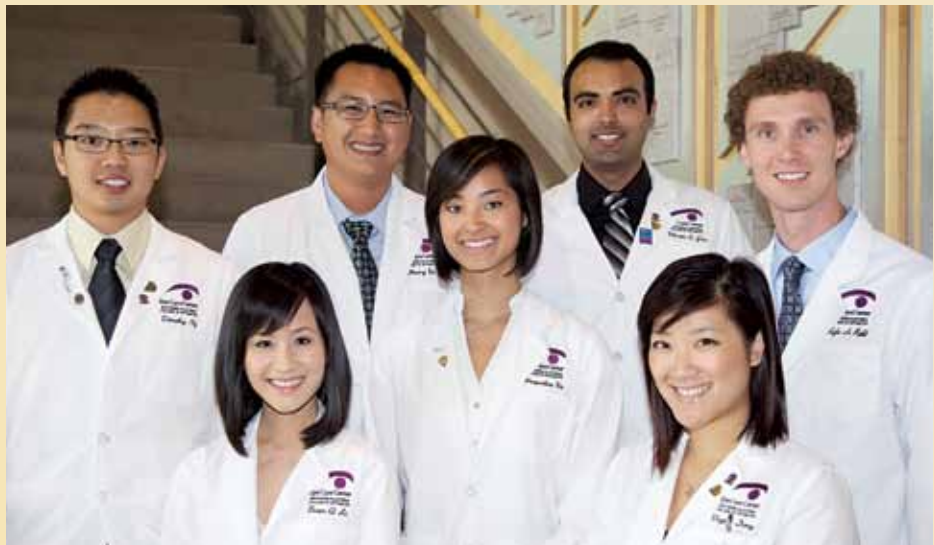


2011 - 2013

SCCO CATALOG

POWERED BY OPTOMETRY



Doctor of Optometry Degree

Master of Science in Vision Science

Vision Care Assistant Program

INCLUDING:

**TEN
QUESTIONS
YOU SHOULD
ASK WHEN
SELECTING AN
OPTOMETRY
COLLEGE**

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Our Core Values

The core values of the Southern California College of Optometry are those qualities that constitute the educational philosophy and spirit of the institution, and permeate every aspect of the campus community. The College emphasizes and enhances these values in its students throughout the professional program. The core values of SCCO are leadership, ethics, professionalism, compassion, commitment, pursuit of excellence, pursuit of knowledge, collegiality, and sense of community.

Our Vision

To lead the future of eye, vision and health care one student at a time.

Our Mission

To educate today's minds to provide tomorrow's eye, vision and health care.

CONTACT US

The friendly and knowledgeable members of the Office of Student Affairs are always available to personally assist you in the admissions process during regular business hours. Your calls are welcome; however, the preferred way to contact us is via Email.

Admissions / Doctor of Optometry	admissions@scco.edu
Admissions / Master of Science	admissions@scco.edu
Admissions / Vice Care Assistant	vca@scco.edu
Financial Aid / Doctor of Optometry	financialadvice@scco.edu

Southern California College of Optometry
Office of Student Affairs
2575 Yorba Linda Boulevard
Fullerton, California 92831-1699

Admissions / Doctor of Optometry	800.829.9949, ext. 7444
Admissions / Master of Science	800.829.9949, ext. 7444
Admissions / Vision Care Assistant	714.872.5682
Student Affairs	800.829.9949, ext. 7444
Financial Aid / Doctor of Optometry	800.829.9949, ext. 7448
Campus Store.....	714.449.7434
M.B. Ketchum Memorial Library.....	714.449.7440



Southern California College of Optometry

HISTORY

The Southern California College of Optometry (SCCO), originally the Los Angeles School of Ophthalmology and Optometry, was chartered by the State of California in 1904. It is the third oldest of the schools and colleges of optometry in the United States and Puerto Rico. In 1911, the name of the school was changed to the Los Angeles Medical School of Ophthalmology and Optometry and the school became incorporated.

The name of the College was later changed in 1948, to the Los Angeles College of Optometry. In 1973, when it moved to a newly built campus in the City of Fullerton in Orange County, California, some 30 miles from its former location in downtown Los Angeles, the College's name changed to the Southern California College of Optometry.

SCCO derives its income from student tuition and fees, clinical service fees, research grants, legacies, gifts, land ownership and endowments. The Board of Trustees is non-salaried, and no financial benefits of the College accrue to any member of the controlling body. As an independent, private, non-profit, accredited educational institution, important additional revenues are received in the form of voluntary gifts from friends of the College, parents, alumni, trustees, corporations, foundations and others.

PROGRAMS OFFERED

The College offers the following degrees and programs:

- Doctor of Optometry (O.D.)
- Master of Science in Vision Science (M.S.)
- Vision Care Assistant Program
- Honorary Degrees
- Optometric Residency Programs
- Continuing Education

Doctor of Optometry (O.D.). See Page 9.

Master of Science in Vision Science (M.S.). See Page 20.

Vision Care Assistant Program. See Page 25.



HONORARY DEGREES

Honorary degrees may be conferred by the College's Board of Trustees upon those who merit recognition for distinct contributions or outstanding service to society, the College, and/or the profession. The honorary degrees granted are Doctor of Ocular Science (D.O.S.), Doctor of Humane Letters (L.H.D.), and Doctor of Laws (LL.D.). Honorary degrees shall not be conferred *in absentia*, nor shall an honorary degree be awarded as an earned degree.

OPTOMETRIC RESIDENCY PROGRAMS

SCCO's optometric residency programs provide postdoctoral clinical training that incorporates the highest level of knowledge with an array of unique and diverse experiences. Unprecedented opportunities for residency training are available through programs affiliated with the Southern California College of Optometry. These one-year, accredited postdoctoral programs, offer advanced clinical management experiences in clinical specialties with additional opportunities in teaching, along with scholarship requirements.

Twenty different postdoctoral residency programs encompassing 37 positions are offered by the Southern California College of Optometry. All programs are structured in accordance with the guidelines of the American Optometric Association Accreditation Council on Optometric Education and are fully accredited or in the process for accreditation review.

All residents receive a stipend, liability coverage, and various benefits depending on the specific program.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

The College's Department of Continuing Education promotes lifelong learning through presentation of current and clinically relevant broad-based education to doctors of optometry and other members of the professional community who interact with optometry.

The College is one of the leading providers of continuing optometric education in the nation, with programs encompassing the full scope of vision, ocular, and systemic health-related courses designed to enhance patient care. SCCO provides CE in two formats — live and COPE-approved online courses. A calendar of offerings is published on the College's website, in professional journals and magazines, and program announcement brochures are mailed throughout the state.

TEN QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD ASK WHEN SELECTING AN OPTOMETRY COLLEGE



1. Who teaches the labs and pre- clinic courses?

Maria Magana, Class of 2014

Salinas, California

B.A., University of California, Berkeley

Dr. Reynaldo J. Carreon Jr. Memorial

Endowed Scholarship

Dr. Herbert McCracken Dixon Memorial

Endowed Scholarship

President, Spanish Optometric Society, SCCO

Co-President, National Optometric Student

Association, SCCO

Student Ambassador, SCCO

All courses and laboratories at SCCO are taught by faculty members and not graduate assistants.

ACCREDITATION

The College's Doctor of Optometry and Master of Science programs are accredited regionally by the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), 985 Atlantic Ave., Suite 100, Alameda, CA 94501; 510.748.9001; e-mail: wascsr@wascsenior.org. The Doctor of Optometry program is also accredited professionally and nationally by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE), of the American Optometric Association (AOA), 243 N. Lindbergh Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63141-7881.

Every accreditation site-visit by WASC, as well as the ACOE, has resulted in full accreditation status from both agencies.

SCCO's Eye Care Center and its Optometric Center of Los Angeles are licensed as community clinics by the Department of Public Health, State of California. The College's curriculum has been approved by the State of California Department of Education, the Office of Private Postsecondary Education for the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and by all of the state boards of optometry throughout the nation. During and following completion of the professional degree program, students and graduates are eligible to take any and all national and state board licensing examinations, which are required to enter practice.

SCCO FACULTY

SCCO is proud of its faculty — a diverse group of basic science and clinical educators. This blend of talent and clinical experience provides each student with an excellent theoretical background and the finest clinical education available in optometry. All courses and laboratories at SCCO are taught by faculty members and not graduate assistants.

SCCO faculty are genuinely interested in your future success. It's the personal contact and exchange of ideas and philosophies that make the difference. The majority of our faculty are full-time and are readily available to the students every day.

SCCO CAMPUS

The College is located in Fullerton, California, a city of over 132,900, nestled against the hills of North Orange County, one of the fastest-growing counties in the nation. Not only is the College part of a burgeoning community, but it is also located in the midst of a major academic complex. Within the City of Fullerton there are five major colleges and universities; hence, the city is known as, Fullerton...The Education Community.



The SCCO campus, which rests on a seven-acre greenbelt, was completed in 1973. A new academic center and multi-level parking structure were completed in 1998.

The Richard L. Hopping Academic Center (Building A), houses the M.B. Ketchum Memorial Library; a 300-seat lecture hall that converts to three 100-seat classrooms; a student computer lab; seminar and study rooms; a fitness center; Campus Operations; and an adjoining multi-level parking structure (Building B) for 340 vehicles. The Fitness Center includes lockers, showers and restrooms that are available for temporary use while utilizing the facilities. The Fitness Center is open 24 hours a day, 365 days per year, unless closed for cleaning and/or repairs. The M.B. Ketchum Memorial Library, located on the second level of the Academic Center, provides the resources and technology needed by today's student to enhance and expand the knowledge gained through experiences in the classroom and clinical environments. The library is open seven days per week during the academic year.

The Basic and Clinical Sciences Building (Building C), includes research space and designated teaching laboratories, a student computer lab, and faculty offices.

The Roger C. Wilson Administration Building (Building D), houses administrative and business offices. Adjacent to the Administration Building is the Ernest A. Hutchinson Memorial Amphitheater where a number of annual events are held including the Commencement Exercise in May.

The Carling Huntington Childs Family Eye Care Center (ECC), serves as both a teaching facility and major community health center. ECC (Building E), provides services including full-scope primary eye care examinations, cornea and contact lenses, binocular vision, vision therapy, vision perception, pediatric vision care, ophthalmology and chronic care, low vision rehabilitation, and optical dispensing. A video and audio link between ECC and the classrooms in the Richard L. Hopping Academic Center provides education using a grand rounds format. In 2003-04, ECC completed a major renovation and expansion to enhance patient care services and the educational experience for all optometry students. Ample parking is available for patients and visitors to the College.

The Student Center (Building F), includes the Student Lounge, Campus Store, Recreation Center, and clinic faculty offices.

The Patricia Hopping Commons serves to connect the original and the new campus buildings. Surrounded by a seating wall on three sides and boasting a built-in barbecue, partially funded by several SCCO class gifts, the redefined space provides a spot for quiet reflection and study, or a fun-filled campus event.

SCCO owns and operates a major teaching and community clinic in Los Angeles, the Optometric Center of Los Angeles (OCLA), located at 3916 South Broadway. It was constructed and fully equipped in 1972 with the aid of a grant from the U.S. Public Health Service. OCLA's services mirror nearly all of those provided at the Eye Care Center in Fullerton.

There are many nearby apartments and rental houses for housing consideration. The College has purchased a number of neighboring condominiums for student housing. About 50 percent of the students live within one mile of campus. SCCO's Office of Student Affairs has housing listings and a roommate service. For further information, contact the Office of Student Affairs.

All physical facilities of the Fullerton campus and all SCCO clinical facilities provide access for the handicapped. Anyone wishing information on handicapped services or having accessibility concerns should contact either the VP/Dean of Academic Affairs or the Director of Human Resources.

SCCO STUDENT BODY

SCCO students are part of a highly select and specialized group. Because each class is chosen from a wide variety of geographical, educational and cultural backgrounds, all students will have an opportunity to broaden their social knowledge and acquaintances.

The Southern California College of Optometry is very cognitive of, and especially sensitive to, the need for self-integrity and unwavering ethical behavior by health care practitioners. Professional education prepares students for their role as health care providers, but it must also address the issues of ethics and professionalism sufficient to meet its charge in regard to protection of the general public.

The administration of the College, with the support and endorsement of the Student Association, has established standards of conduct and dress befitting student members of the optometric profession. These standards are set forth in sections titled "Student Code of Conduct" and "Professional Standards of Dress," which are published in the *SCCO Student Handbook*. All members of the Student Association, faculty and administration are expected to adhere to and enforce these standards, as well as all other regulations published by the College.

Students are encouraged to participate in intercollegiate, community and service activities. Students' participation in organizational affairs provides an opportunity to develop skills that will be useful as practicing professionals and as future leaders of their community and profession.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Through the Student Association, of which all students are members, student body members are invited to take an active part in the governance of the College as student representatives serving on administrative and faculty committees. The mission of the Student Association Board of the Southern California College of Optometry is to represent and act on behalf of the student body to enhance the quality of education, improve student life, and promote student involvement in the profession and the community.

Annually, each class elects a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, as well as Student Association officers to represent the student body.

The Board of Directors of the Student Association consists of the president, president pro-tem, secretary, treasurer, the directors of six departments, the AOSA trustee and the president of each class. The departments are Intraprofessional Relations, Public Relations, Student Relations, Extracurricular Activities, Education and Community Health.

We are excited when someone makes the decision to apply to SCCO when so many other fine optometric institutions are available. We're just as excited on graduation day when we witness the successful applicant to SCCO who became a student, and who then, became a Doctor of Optometry.

LORRAINE I. VOORHEES, O.D., M.S., '71
Vice President of Student Affairs

Each class is free to maintain its own voluntary organization and treasury for social and other extracurricular functions under the supervision of the Student Association. The annual student body fee is collected by SCCO's Controller to subsidize student activities approved by the Student Association. Expenditure of these funds is under the complete direction of the Student Association.

The president of the Student Association or his/her representative is invited and regularly attends the quarterly meetings of the Board of Trustees of the College.

SCCO is not responsible for any commitments made by any student organization. Continued sanctioning of any student organization depends upon proper fulfillment of all its obligations.

Students are expected to be responsible for their own behavior as adults. The College assumes no responsibilities for supervising a student organization's activities. All members of the College Community are expected to know and abide by the College's Alcohol and Substance Abuse Policy, including regulations on the serving of alcoholic beverages at student-sponsored events.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

American Optometric Student Association (AOSA)

The American Optometric Student Association (AOSA) is the national organization for optometry students. All SCCO students are automatically members of the AOSA and the American Optometric Association (AOA), by virtue of their membership in the SCCO Student Association. AOSA exists to improve the visual welfare of the public and enhance the education and welfare of optometry students. AOSA directs itself to the educational, legislative, political, interprofessional, intraprofessional and social concerns of optometry students.



Project Concern

This voluntary program is student directed, but it is also an extension of the College's public service and clinical training program. Its purpose is to provide on-site visual screenings, and when necessary, additional visual services to needy people who otherwise would not receive visual care. The project provides training in administration, clinical skills and community service.

Beta Sigma Kappa

Beta Sigma Kappa is an international optometric honorary fraternity. Optometric students who have attained a specified high scholastic standing while enrolled in a school or college of optometry may be invited to become members.

National Optometric Student Association (NOSA)

The National Optometric Student Association (NOSA), an affiliate of the National Optometric Association (NOA), consists of matriculated students of optometry and other persons who are committed to the recruitment and retention of qualified underrepresented minority students in the profession of optometry.

Omega Delta and Omega Epsilon Phi

There are two professional optometric fraternities at SCCO. Both offer a yearly schedule of social events, as well as many educational programs.

Spanish Optometric Society

This organization is designed to provide students with an opportunity to develop the necessary Spanish-speaking skills to effectively provide optometric services to Spanish-speaking patients.

Student Spouse Association

This organization of optometric student spouses is an educational and social body. It is designed to present to the members their civic and social obligations as spouses of future optometrists. This organization also serves to foster a closer relationship among the student spouses.

PUBLICATIONS

The students publish *Scope*, a quarterly news magazine and the College yearbook, *Reflex*. Funding is obtained through appropriations from the student body fee, the sale of advertising space and contributions. The Vice President of Student Affairs serves as the publications advisor.



Doctor of Optometry Degree Program

SCCO — THE BEST CHOICE

As a future optometry student, you'll be making a substantial investment of time and resources into your career of choice — optometry. You have a responsibility to research your options to find the best fit for you and yield a good return on investment. There are dozens of reasons why SCCO, with over 107 years of excellence in clinical education, patient care and research, is worthy of your consideration. Here are the top 10.

1. Unparalleled — A Recognized Claim

SCCO's world-renown Outreach Clinical Program has been cited as, "unparalleled in optometric clinical education," by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education of the American Optometric Association.

2. High Pass Rates on National Tests

SCCO students consistently achieve high NBEO pass rates.

3. Outstanding Contemporary Campus

The SCCO Campus and its buildings and facilities are fantastic! Add the great year-round weather and tremendous recreational attractions — beaches, mountains, professional sports, major theme parks, cultural events and a variety of culinary cuisines — and you have a wonderful environment for learning and personal growth.

4. Mentoring — Different than Undergraduate School

The majority of SCCO's faculty are full-time and are readily available to assist students. All courses and labs are taught by faculty members and not by graduate assistants. Most didactic course faculty members are also clinical preceptors as this fosters a continuity of education as the principles and concepts learned in lectures and lab are reinforced in the clinical setting during patient care encounters. SCCO faculty are truly vested in each student's progress throughout the four-year educational process.

5. Hit the Ground Running

SCCO has more practice management course hours in its curriculum than any other optometry program, preparing future practitioners for both patient care and successful business practices. SCCO's Practice Management Center (PMC), provides assistance to students for the successful transfer and development of independent optometric practices.

6. Ideal Location

SCCO is located in a residential, suburban neighborhood with many nearby apartments and rental houses for consideration. About 50% of students live within one mile of the SCCO Campus, which facilitates a real sense of community on our campus. Some optometry schools are located in urban environments where students would not want to live and other institutions are in "high rent" districts where a typical student's budget would not allow for housing near campus.

7. Here to Help

The staff of SCCO's Office of Student Affairs has a long-standing reputation for excellent service to students. Someone is available during regular business hours to personally answer all phone calls. They are committed to assisting students with the admissions process. Email queries are answered promptly and a Facebook Group for pre-optometry students provides invaluable interaction between students and members of the Student Affairs Staff.

8. Working Together — Academic Assistance

Faculty are friendly and willing to assist all students in achieving their maximum potential. SCCO provides tutoring assistance that's funded through an endowment and conducted by student members of Beta Sigma Kappa, the national optometric honor fraternity. Upper classmates also conduct mock proficiency exam reviews to assist students in preparing for clinical proficiency exams.

9. Students Begin Seeing Patients in Their First Year

Through the Clinical Enhancement Program students begin working with patients in the College's Eye Care Center in their first year of training. They are paired with upper classmates to assist and observe in patient care. After learning clinical skills, they then see their own patients as Second-Year Students.

10. Leadership Experience — A Hallmark of SCCO

Our students, alumni, faculty and administrators are leaders in their communities and within local, state and national optometric organizations. This is a tremendous source of pride for the entire SCCO Family.

TEN QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD ASK WHEN SELECTING AN OPTOMETRY COLLEGE



2. How accessible are the faculty?

Tram Q. Le, Class of 2014

*Sacramento, California
B.S., University of California, Los Angeles
Student Association Board,
Department of Community Health, SCCO
Student Ambassador, SCCO*

The majority of SCCO faculty are full-time and are readily available to the students every day.

SCCO ADMISSIONS / DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY

It takes four academic years to complete the Doctor of Optometry program. During the first year, students are exposed to the basic sciences and research techniques. Included are courses in geometrical and physical optics, biomedical sciences, visual sciences and clinical techniques. First-year students also receive their first introduction to patient care in the campus-based Eye Care Center (ECC).

The second year emphasizes clinical techniques and advanced studies in visual science. Students begin seeing their own patients in the ECC in the third quarter of the second year.

Third-year students have patient care assignments at ECC under the supervision of clinical faculty and take courses in contact lenses, vision therapy, diseases of the eye, ocular pharmacology, clinical optometry and public health.

The final year is primarily spent serving patients in the various clinics of the Outreach Clinical Program. Some assignment in the specialty services at ECC is also included.

The degree Doctor of Optometry will be conferred on students who are officially admitted to, and who satisfactorily complete, the four-year professional curriculum in optometry. Satisfactory completion of the SCCO program will academically qualify the graduate to apply for licensure in each of the 50 states.

The number of applicants for admissions to SCCO regularly exceeds the number of available spaces. Many applicants cannot be admitted even though their records surpass the specified minimum requirements.

Once applications are received, it is the College's responsibility to select those applicants who are best qualified to make a contribution to the public and profession and who will benefit most from the optometric education program. The decision for admission is based on the applicant's ability, scholarship, character and motivation.

The College has a nondiscriminatory policy regarding race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex or handicap.

All applicants to the Southern California College of Optometry must submit their application through the Optometry Centralized Application Service, OptomCAS. The website for the service is www.optomcas.org. All applicants should review the information and instructions on the website for submitting transcripts and Letters of Recommendation. You will only have to submit your transcripts and letters of recommendation to OptomCAS, not to the individual schools and colleges. You will need to authorize the release of your Optometry Admission Test (OAT) scores to each school that you are considering.

Upon completing the application you may designate SCCO as a school to receive your application. In addition to the basic OptomCAS application SCCO does have a supplemental application that is posted on the OptomCAS website to make it easier for applicants. You must complete the on-line supplemental application and submit it to SCCO. OptomCAS will not collect the \$65 supplemental application fee. You must pay SCCO directly. Payment is accepted by credit card (preferred) or money order. Call the Office of Student Affairs with your credit card information at 714.449.7444.

Approximately four weeks after you have submitted to OptomCAS your application, your transcripts and the applicable fees, SCCO will receive your application and begin the process of evaluation. Your Letters of Recommendation will be forwarded to SCCO once received at OptomCAS. We will download your OAT scores when they are available, usually within two weeks after you take the exam.

The admissions procedure begins with a screening of each applicant's scholastic qualifications including high school and college record and the OAT scores. Our goal is to select students who are academically capable of completing the Doctor of Optometry program.

Next, the applicant's personal qualifications are reviewed, since the study and practice of optometry requires great responsibility, maturity, ethics, devotion, intellectual curiosity and social commitment. Letters of Recommendation, essays and extracurricular activities are evaluated.

Those who meet the academic and personal criteria of the preliminary screening are offered personal interviews at SCCO. The interview enables the College and applicant to learn more about each other. Additionally, the interviewing team endeavors to appraise such personal qualities as responsiveness, warmth, social situation adjustment, the communication of clear and concise ideas, maturity and career motivation.

SCCO, as a regional and national resource, receives applications from nearly every state in the nation.

Accepted candidates who have not completed all course prerequisites at the time of application must do so before beginning studies at SCCO.

Send a request for more information on the application and interview process to: admissions@scco.edu.

A combined OD/Master of Science in Vision Science (OD/MS), program is also available. Students admitted into the combined OD/MS program are chosen from those accepted into the regular four-year Doctor of Optometry program. Students may apply for admission into the OD and MS programs concurrently or optometry students may apply as late as the Spring Quarter of their first professional year.

REQUIREMENTS

Academic requirements for admission to SCCO are based on standards set by the California Optometry Law, the accrediting bodies and the judgment of the Admissions Policy Committee.

A baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university is required for admission. A student may apply during his/her senior year of college and supply documentation certifying that they will be receiving their degree prior to the start of the first-year classes in August. Secondly, students may apply during their junior year in college for an early decision. If accepted, their enrollment will be guaranteed for the following year after the

completion of their bachelor's degree. An early decision acceptance implies a commitment on the part of the applicant to not apply to other programs during the year they are completing the bachelor's degree.

Applicants are expected to have completed a traditional college education including a broad foundation in the natural sciences, social sciences and humanities and must demonstrate facility in writing and speaking the English language. The following courses must be completed at a regionally accredited institution, in the United States or Canada, with a grade of "C-" or better, prior to enrollment and are the minimum requirements for all applicants:

- Calculus
(Analytical Geometry/Calculus also acceptable)
3 semester units or 4 quarter units
- General Biology or Zoology, including laboratory
8 semester units or 12 quarter units
- General Microbiology or Bacteriology, including laboratory (No substitutions are allowed.)
3 semester units or 4 quarter units
- Human Anatomy, including laboratory
3 semester units or 4 quarter units
- Human Physiology, including laboratory
3 semester units or 4 quarter units
- General Physics (the one year sequence of), including laboratory
8 semester units or 12 quarter units
- General Chemistry (the one year sequence of), including laboratory
8 semester units or 12 quarter units
- Organic Chemistry
3 semester units or 4 quarter units
- Biochemistry (No laboratory required.)
3 semester units or 4 quarter units
- Psychology
(Statistics will not meet this requirement.)
3 semester units or 4 quarter units
- English Composition or Literature
6 semester units or 8 quarter units
- Statistics
3 semester units or 4 quarter units.

AP (Advanced Placement) credit will not be accepted for any of the minimum required courses. If you have questions about the accreditation status of an undergraduate institution, please contact SCCO's Office of Student Affairs. It is the applicant's responsibility to verify that their coursework is acceptable.



FUNCTIONAL STANDARDS FOR DIDACTIC AND CLINICAL OPTOMETRIC EDUCATION

One part of the mission of each school and college of optometry is to produce graduates fully qualified to provide quality comprehensive eye care services to the public. To fulfill this mission, each institution must ensure that students demonstrate satisfactory knowledge and skills in the provision of optometric care. Admission committees, therefore, consider a candidate's capacity to function effectively in both the academic and clinical environments, as well as a candidate's academic qualifications and personal attributes.

To provide guidance to those considering optometry as a profession, the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO) has established functional standards for optometric education. The ability to meet these standards, along with other criteria established by individual optometric institutions, is necessary for graduation from an optometric professional degree program.

The functional standards for optometric education require that the candidate/student possess appropriate abilities in the following areas: 1.) observation; 2.) communication; 3.) sensory and motor coordination; 4.) intellectual-conceptual, integrative and quantitative abilities; and 5.) behavioral and social attributes. Each of these areas is described in a document available from the Office of Student Affairs.

In any case where a student's abilities in one of these areas are compromised, he or she must demonstrate alternative means and/or abilities to meet the functional requirements. It is expected that seeking and using such alternative means and/or abilities shall be the responsibility of the student. Upon receipt of appropriate documentation, the school or college will be expected to provide reasonable assistance and accommodation to the student.

FOREIGN APPLICANTS

Applicants who have completed a bachelor's degree outside of the United States or Canada, must submit a certified course equivalency evaluation of all work on their transcripts. Other earned degrees will not meet the requirement for an academic bachelor's degree. Regardless of the degree earned, the minimum prerequisite courses must be completed at an accredited college or university in the United States or Canada. In addition, applicants who are not U.S. citizens or permanent U.S. residents must submit a certified bank statement showing their ability to pay for the four years of education prior to an I-20 form being issued for immigration purposes.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Transfer students are those students currently enrolled in another optometry program in the United States or Canada and who are in good academic and disciplinary standing. Students wishing to transfer from another optometric school or college in the U.S. or Canada may apply directly to SCCO and must meet the following criteria: make formal application to SCCO; be in good academic and disciplinary standing at the transferring institution; supply a letter of recommendation and permission from the chief executive officer or designee of the transferring institution; supply a letter from each of two full-time members of the faculty of the transferring institution recommending the transfer; provide a letter explaining in detail why the transfer is being requested including appropriate documentation that substantiates the reason; meet all current admissions requirements and standards of SCCO; supply official transcripts of all collegiate work completed, including that taken at the transferring institution; supply course outlines for all optometry coursework for which Advanced Standing Credit is desired; submit scores for the Optometry Admission Test (OAT); and submit the appropriate application fees.

Decisions on transfer applications are made by the Admissions Policy Committee in cooperation

TEN QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD ASK WHEN SELECTING AN OPTOMETRY COLLEGE



3. Where do the students live?

Heather Bowman, Class of 2014

*Yadkinville, North Carolina
B.S., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Student Ambassador, SCCO*

There are many nearby apartments and rental houses for housing consideration. About 50 percent of the students live within one mile of the SCCO campus. SCCO is located in a suburban, residential neighborhood.

with the Office of Student Affairs. Factors considered include: available space, admissions standards, reason for the transfer request, appropriateness of courses completed to the academic level to which transfer is requested, and personal attributes of the applicant. Transfer applicants are only considered for entry into the First or Second Professional Year. Students who were previously enrolled at another optometry program but left for academic, disciplinary or personal reasons must submit their application through OptomCAS.

PROCEDURES

All first time applicants, reapplicants, and those who have been previously enrolled in another optometry program must apply through the centralized service OptomCAS at www.optomcas.org. Applicants must follow the instructions on how to complete the application, submit transcripts and submit Letters of Recommendation. In addition, SCCO's supplemental application is located on the OptomCAS website and may be completed when selecting SCCO as a program

to receive your application. The SCCO supplemental application fee is \$65 and must be paid directly to SCCO by check, money order or credit card (preferred method).

The official SCCO application period is July 1 (first day of the OptomCAS cycle) through March 15. You must submit your application and college transcripts to OptomCAS by March 15.

Optometry Admission Test (OAT) results will only be released to the individual schools and colleges that you select. Be sure to designate SCCO as a recipient of your test scores at the time you take the exam to avoid delays in processing your application. The address for the OAT Program is: Optometry Admissions Testing Program, 211 E. Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611. The last OAT test date that will be accepted is March 15.

Applications are processed as soon as they are complete. Candidates will be invited to campus for interviews dependent upon their academic and professional potential credentials. Interviews will begin early in the Fall and be completed early in the Spring. Successful applicants who have been notified of their acceptance are required to submit a matriculation fee of \$1,500 that will be credited to the Fall Quarter tuition upon their enrollment. Of that amount \$750 must be submitted within two weeks of the notification of acceptance and the second \$750 must be submitted by May 15. A total of \$250 of the first half of the deposit is refundable if notification of withdrawal is received in the Admissions Office by May 15.

Candidates declining an offer of admission will not be deferred until the subsequent year and they must reapply through the normal OptomCAS process.

Foreign students (F-1 Visa) must submit certified proof of sufficient U.S. funds to cover all educational expenses prior to an I-20 form being issued.

Applicants for the MS program may request information and an application package by contacting the SCCO Office of Student Affairs at 714.449.7444 or admissions@scco.edu.

GRADUATION WITH HONORS / DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY AND MASTER OF SCIENCE PROGRAMS

Latinized honors are accorded to those students who have excelled scholastically on the following basis:

Summa Cum Laude	3.80 – 4.00
Magna Cum Laude	3.60 – 3.79
Cum Laude	3.40 – 3.59

OPTOMETRY CURRICULUM, 2011-12*

FIRST PROFESSIONAL YEAR

Number	Course Title	Hours			Units
		Lecture	Lab.	Clinic	
Fall Quarter					
BVS 510	Clinical Integration of Basic Science	2	2	0	3.0
BVS 511	Applied Biomedical Science	3	0	0	3.0
BVS 540	Optics I	4	2	0	5.0
BVS 550	Eye Movements	3.5	1.5	0	4.25
CLS 580	Practice Management I	2	1	0	2.5
CLS 582	Professional Ethics	0.5	1	0	1.0
TOTAL		15	7.5	0	18.75

Winter Quarter

BVS 512	Ocular Anatomy	4	2	0	5.0
BVS 541	Optics II	4	2	0	5.0
BVS 551	Visual Optics	3.5	1	0	4.0
CLS 560	Clinical Methods I	3	3	0	4.5
CLS 581	Public Health & Optometry	2	0	0	2.0
CLE 590	Optometric Clinical Service I	0	0	1	0.25
TOTAL		16.5	8	1	20.75

Spring Quarter

BVS 513	Neurophysiology	3	3	0	4.5
BVS 520	Clinical Medicine I	3	1.5	0	3.75
BVS 542	Ophthalmic Optics I	2	2	0	3.0
BVS 552	Visual Psychophysics	3.5	1.5	0	4.25
CLS 561	Clinical Methods II	3	3	0	4.5
CLE 591	Optometric Clinical Service II	0	0	1	0.25
TOTAL		14.5	11	1	20.25

SECOND PROFESSIONAL YEAR

Number	Course Title	Hours			Units
		Lecture	Lab.	Clinic	
Fall Quarter					
BVS 610	Ocular Physiology	3	1	0	3.5
BVS 620	Clinical Medicine II	3	0	0	3.0
BVS 640	Ophthalmic Optics II	2	2	0	3.0
BVS 650	Sensory Vision	3.5	1.5	0	4.25
CLS 660	Ocular Health Procedure I	3	3	0	4.5
CLS 661	Case Analysis & Prescribing I	2	1	0	2.5
CLE 690	Optometric Clinical Service III	0	0	3	0.75
TOTAL		16.5	8.5	3	21.5

Winter Quarter

BVS 661	Systemic Pharmacology	4	0	0	4.0
BVS 651	Binocular Vision & Space Perception	3.5	2	0	4.5
BVS 652	Biostatistics & Research Design	3	0	0	3.0
CLS 662	Case Analysis and Prescribing II	3	0	0	3.0
CLS 670	Cornea & Contact Lenses I	3	2	0	4.0
CLE 691	Optometric Clinical Service IV	0	0	4	1.0
TOTAL		16.5	4	4	19.5

Spring Quarter

BVS 612	Ocular Pharmacology	4	0	0	4.0
CLS 663	Ocular Health Procedures II	2	3	0	3.5
CLS 664	Ocular Disease Diagnosis & Management I	4	0	0	4.0
CLS 671	Cornea & Contact Lenses II	2	3	0	3.5
CLS 672	Management of Non-Strabismic Binocular Vision Conditions	2	3	0	3.5
CLE 692	Optometric Clinical Service V	0	0	4	1.0
TOTAL		14	9	4	19.5

THIRD PROFESSIONAL YEAR

Number	Course Title	Hours			Units
		Lecture	Lab.	Clinic	
Summer Quarter					
CLS 760	Pediatric Optometry	2	0	0	2.0
CLS 767	Ocular Health Procedures II	2	3	0	3.5
CLS 771	Vision, Perception & Learning	3	2	0	4.0
CLS 780	Practice Management II	2	0	0	2.0
CLE 790	Optometric Clinical Service VI	0	0	14	3.5
TOTAL		9	5	14	15.0

Fall Quarter

BVS 750	Research Proposal I	0	1	0	0.5
CLS 761	Geriatric Optometry	2	0	0	2.0
CLS 762	Ocular Disease Diagnosis & Management II	4	0	0	4.0
CLS 770	Cornea & Contact Lenses III	3	0.5	0	3.25
CLS 772	Strabismus & Amblyopia Diagnosis	3	3	0	4.5
CLE 791	Optometric Clinical Service VII	0	0	14	3.5
TOTAL		12	4.5	14	17.75

Winter Quarter

BVS 751	Research Proposal II	0	0.5	0	0.25
CLS 763	Ocular Disease Diagnosis & Management III	4	0	0	4.0
CLS 764	Ocular Health Procedures III	2	1	0	2.5
CLS 773	Strabismus & Amblyopia Management	3	0	0	3.0
CLS 774	Low Vision Rehabilitation	3	2	0	4.0
CLE 792	Optometric Clinical Service VIII	0	0	14	3.5
TOTAL		12	3.5	14	17.25

Spring Quarter

CLS 765	Ocular Disease Case Management	0	2	0	1.0
CLS 766	Advanced Clinical Topics	1.5	0	0	1.5
CLS 775	Cornea & Contact Lenses IV	0	2	2	1.5
CLS 781	Practice Management III	2	0	0	2.0
CLS 782	Health Promotion	1	0	0	1.0
CLE 793	Optometric Clinical Service IX	0	0	14	3.5
TOTAL		4.5	4	16	10.5

FOURTH PROFESSIONAL YEAR

Students in the fourth professional year are scheduled by clinic rotations rather than quarters. Each rotation is approximately twelve (12) weeks in duration. The hours shown below are total contact hours.

Number	Course Title	Hours			Units
		Lecture	Lab.	Clinic	
Clinical Education					
BVS 805	Senior Research	0.5	1	0	1.0
CLE 890	Clinical Seminars	3	0	0	3.0
CLE 891	Optometric Clinical Service X	0	0	480	12.0
CLE 892	Outreach Clinical Service I	0	0	480	12.0
CLE 893	Outreach Clinical Service II	0	0	480	12.0
CLE 894	Outreach Clinical Service III	0	0	480	12.0
TOTAL		3.5	1	1,920	52.0

*Course descriptions may be found by accessing the College's website at: www.scco.edu.

BVS: Department of Basic & Visual Sciences

CLS: Department of Clinical Sciences

CLE: Department of Clinical Education

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Note: Financial Information, including tuition for the Doctor of Optometry degree program, may be found on page 28.

The primary responsibility for financing an optometric education lies with the student and family. If additional funds are found necessary, there are various types of financial aid available. At the graduate level the bulk of financial aid is in the form of loans, although scholarship and work-study funds are offered. Because many of the assistance programs are funded, in part, by governmental agencies, changes can occur at anytime. Following is a brief description of the financial assistance available at the time of publication of this catalog. More specific information can be found in the Financial Aid Booklet available on the SCCO website: <http://scco.edu/admissions/financialaid.html>. The Financial Aid staff is available

to assist students and potential students with financial planning beginning with the admissions process and throughout the four years of the program. Because of the personalized approach to financial planning, our alumni are well prepared to meet their obligations after graduation. Our graduates' loan default rates are less than one percent.

Dr. Charles A. Abel Emergency Loan Fund

Established in 1982 through contributions from alumni, faculty and friends of SCCO to the Dr. Charles A. Abel Recognition Fund, this fund, in addition to providing annual scholarships, provides emergency loans for students in amounts up to \$900.

Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program

Armed Forces Scholarships pay full tuition, fees, books and supply costs and a monthly living stipend. For each year that a student receives financial assistance, he/she must serve an equivalent number of years, with a minimum of three years of service required.

Federal GP PLUS

This is an unsubsidized loan source with a fixed 7.9% interest rate and requires a credit check. Students should only seek funds from this program when they have utilized all of their Unsubsidized Direct Loan eligibility. There is no grace period for this program.

Federal Perkins Student Loans

This low interest (5%) loan is awarded to students with demonstrated financial need after taking out the full Subsidized Direct Loan. This loan program is administered by the College. No interest is charged until repayment begins, nine months after graduation.

Federal Subsidized Direct Loans

Since July 1, 2006 these loans have a fixed 6.8% interest rate and are made directly from the federal government. The current annual limit is \$8,500 per year. These loans are need-based for all applicants and they require filing of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) needs analysis form. The federal government will pay the interest on the loan while the student is in school.

Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loans

The terms are the same as the Federal Subsidized Direct Loan except that the borrower is responsible for the interest that accrues before repayment. Presently, students may borrow \$32,000 for First- and Second-Year Students and \$38,667 for Third- and Fourth-Year Students.

TEN QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD ASK WHEN SELECTING AN OPTOMETRY COLLEGE



4. If I call during the day, will someone be there to answer my questions?

Kyle A. Ryff, Class of 2014

*Casper, Wyoming
B.S., University of Wyoming
WICHE Recipient from Wyoming
Dr. Martin A. Robin Memorial Endowed Scholarship*

Someone from the SCCO Student Affairs Staff is usually available during regular business hours. We are committed to answering your calls personally.

Federal Work-Study

This program offers employment opportunities on campus to students who demonstrate financial need with the FAFSA needs analysis form. Current pay rate range is \$9.00 - \$12.00 per hour. A student may not work more than an average of 20 hours per week during enrollment periods. Federal work-study jobs are limited by federal and College funding, and departmental allocations.

HHS Health Professions Student Loans

This loan program is similar to the Perkins Loan Program and is administered by the College. The interest rate is 5% for these loans. This is a need-based loan and all applicants must submit both the parent and student/spouse needs analysis information to be considered for these funds.

HHS Loans for Disadvantaged Students

This loan program is similar to the Health Professions Student Loan Program and is administered by the College. The interest rate is 5% for these loans. All applicants must submit both the parent and student/spouse needs analysis information and must meet a low income requirement.

HHS Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students

These scholarships are awarded to students who provide family information through an essay about how they came from an environment that inhibited them from obtaining the knowledge, skill and abilities required to enroll in a graduate health professions program. The parents and students must meet a low income requirement. Award amounts vary depending on federal funding levels.

SCCO Dr. John A. Harris Student Loan Program (1987)

A permanent endowment was created through a bequest from the estate of alumnus Dr. John A. Harris, '26, and his wife, Nina, whereby a need-based revolving student loan program was established to assist qualified fourth-year students in completing their educational goals. These low interest loans are administered by the College. No interest is charged until repayment begins, nine months after graduation.

SCCO Takeo Kanai Student Loan Fund (1994)

A permanent endowed loan fund was established in 1994 in honor of Takeo Kanai, Chairman of the Board of Fuji Optical Co., Ltd., by Shigehiro Kanai, then President and Akio Kanai, O.D., '72, Vice President. The purpose of the Takeo Kanai Student Loan Fund is to annually provide low-interest loan assistance to financially needy fourth-year students thereby enabling them to complete their educational goals.



No interest is charged until repayment begins, nine months after graduation.

SCCO Vision for Excellence Grants-in-Aid (1985)

The College annually awards several grants-in-aid per class to deserving students based on financial need. These are credited directly to the student's tuition charges.

Veterans Benefits

SCCO does not determine your eligibility for federal veterans education benefits. You would apply through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). You can be guided through the process by going to: www.gibill.va.gov.

Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)

The College is a participant in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) Student Exchange Program. Applicants from the participating states (Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Utah,

To become an optometrist is to make a life-long commitment to a fantastic profession — to my profession. SCCO's interns will serve their chosen profession well.

JANE ANN MUNROE, O.D., '77
Director of Admissions

Washington and Wyoming), are encouraged to contact the Certifying Officer in their home state for information on applying for certification. In most cases, the deadline for certification application is October 15, of the year preceding admission; however, some state deadlines and requirements may vary. For more information, contact Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, 3035 Center Green Drive, Suite 200, Boulder, CO 80301-2204 or go to: www.wiche.edu/psep.

Students certified and funded by a state contract will pay the regular tuition less the amount of the actual contract. The entire amount of the contract support, when received, will be credited to the student's account during the Winter and Spring Quarters.

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year over 150 scholarships and awards are available to qualified students at SCCO to recognize and honor those who have achieved excellence in academics, clinical abilities, research, leadership and service. Recipients of scholarships and awards are generally determined by the VP/Dean of Academic Affairs upon the recommendations of appointed faculty committees. In recognizing that multiple students may meet eligibility criteria for the various awards, the administration makes every effort to recognize as many students as possible. Information regarding any scholarships or awards may be obtained from the VP/Dean of Academic Affairs or the Vice President of Student Affairs.

GRADUATING STUDENT AWARDS

These campus-based awards are presented annually to graduating SCCO students at the Senior Awards Presentation.

Pre-Graduation Student Scholarships

Annual scholarships are available to students entering any of the four professional years of study at SCCO and are based on criteria that include academic excellence, clinical ability, financial need, leadership, etc. These campus-based scholarships are presented at an event held during the Fall Quarter. All monetary scholarships are directly applied to the recipients' educational expenses at the College after a copy of a letter of appreciation that has been sent to the donor is submitted to the Financial Aid Office.

Descriptions of individual scholarships and awards may be found by accessing the website: www.scco.edu.

TEN QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD ASK WHEN SELECTING AN OPTOMETRY COLLEGE



5. When will I see my first patient?

Virginie Dang, Class of 2014

*Paris, France
B.S., University of California, San Diego
Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students
President, Optometric Extension Program
Student Ambassador, SCCO*

First-year interns at SCCO receive their first introduction to patient care in the College's Eye Care Center. Interns begin seeing their own patients in the Eye Care Center in the third quarter of the second year.



SALARY AND EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

As required by Section 177.64 of the federal regulations governing the Direct Student Loan Program, published in the "Federal Register," on February 20, 1975, the following salary data is provided from the American Optometric Association 2007 Survey:

Type of Practice	Mean Net Income
Solo Practice	\$134,094
Group (2 Person)	\$176,944
Group (3–5 Person)	\$179,205
Group (6 or more)	\$159,300
Optical Chain	\$100,704
Independent Contractor	\$94,520
Employed by O.D.	\$102,981
Employed by M.D.	\$115,250
Employed by HMO	\$107,125
Employed by Hospital	\$101,867
Employed by Optical Chain	\$91,400
Armed Forces, VA, USPHS	\$101,579

Years in Practice

6–10 Years	\$104,866
11–15 Years	\$135,900
16–20 Years	\$171,644
21–25 Years	\$145,603
26–30 Years	\$177,179

Gender

Males	\$142,924
Females	\$101,788

GRADUATION RATES

In accordance with the federal Student Right-to-Know and Campus Security Act (S.580), the College provides the following information to interested parties regarding the percentage of students who enrolled in our program and graduated within four years:

Class Year	% Graduating
2007	98%
2008	96%
2009	95%
2010	96%
2011	97%

Master of Science in Vision Science Degree Program

OVERVIEW

The Master of Science in Vision Science (MS) prepares students to embark on a career in teaching and/or research in the basic or clinical science of vision. Students accepted into the program must be enrolled at SCCO in the professional optometry program or hold a Doctor of Optometry degree (OD) from an accredited school or college of Optometry in North America.

The need for new knowledge in the vision sciences is great, and teaching and research opportunities are numerous in a spectrum of academic, industrial and professional settings. Although the program has sufficient structure to provide a broad foundation of scientific knowledge of vision systems, it is at the same time appropriately flexible to permit candidates to develop expertise in areas of special interest.

Four tracks are currently offered. The first is a combined OD/MS dual degree program, started upon entry into the Optometry program (OD) or later in the first year of the Optometry program (OD). Students may apply concurrently to the Optometry and MS program. Otherwise, students are identified by interest and academic performance by the end of winter quarter of the first year, and invited to participate.

Two stand-alone, full-time, two-year MS tracks are also offered. The combined residency/MS program incorporates an element of patient care, proposed as the equivalent of two full days per week (0.40 FTE) for two years in a defined clinical area (i.e., contact lenses, binocular vision, low vision, ocular disease) combined with a research project. The stand-alone program would also incorporate two days per week (0.40 FTE) of teaching for two years, expected to be a combination of clinical and laboratory assignments.

A final program is the offering of a part-time Master of Science in Vision Science degree program to practicing optometrists.

All of the MS programs would incorporate the development and presentation of seminars and formal lectures in specific courses to develop candidates' educational skills.

The MS tracks require the equivalent of two years full-time study, including 27 quarter credits for core and elective didactic course work, and a minimum of 33 credit hours of research, culminating in a written thesis.



PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The Master of Science in Vision Science is envisioned as a research-based graduate degree. Research is a vital part of the ongoing development of the profession since it provides the basis for new understanding and new treatments of vision conditions. The research undertaken in fulfillment of the MS degree will provide new knowledge for the profession, train the candidate in the conduct of sound research as a potential future educator and researcher, and enhance the reputation of the institution as a leader in the profession through publication of results in quality peer-reviewed journals.

SCCO ADMISSIONS / MASTER OF SCIENCE IN VISION SCIENCE

The Southern California College of Optometry's (SCCO's) Master of Science in Vision Science program seeks to admit students possessing the qualities and motivation necessary for success in clinically applied research. Admission is based on an assessment of both academic and non-academic qualifications including; an application, letters of recommendation, personal statement and the admissions interview.

OD / MS PROGRAM

Students admitted into SCCO's combined OD/MS degree program are chosen from those accepted into the regular four-year Doctor of Optometry program. Students may apply for admission into the OD and MS programs concurrently or Optometry students may apply as late as the spring quarter of their first professional year.

3-Year OD/MS Sample Program 4-Year OD/MS Sample Program

Admissions Requirements for the OD / MS Program

- ❑ BA or BS degree
- ❑ College degree transcripts indicating a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA on pre-requisites for the OD program.
- ❑ Optometry Admissions Test (OAT) scores above 300 in each topic area. Application to the Optometry (OD) program is made through OptomCAS. Once accepted to the OD program, the applicant may apply to the MS program directly.
- ❑ Personal statement detailing interests in the MS program and expectations.
- ❑ A minimum of one reference letter from a faculty member at SCCO or at an undergraduate program attesting to the applicant's analytical or research skills and potential for success in a clinical research program.
- ❑ US citizenship or legal residency.

MS TRADITIONAL PROGRAM

A stand-alone, traditional MS degree program is also available. Applications for the stand-alone MS program are accepted through May and are available to graduates of optometry programs approved by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE).

MS Traditional Degree Sample Program

Admissions Requirements for the MS Traditional Program

- ❑ Optometry degree transcripts indicating a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA for the OD program.
- ❑ A personal statement detailing interests in the MS program and expectations.
- ❑ Two references attesting to the applicant's analytical or research skills and potential for success in a clinical research program.
- ❑ NBEO scores.
- ❑ US citizenship or legal residency.

MS / RESIDENCY PROGRAM

A combined MS/Residency program is available to graduates of an Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) accredited optometry program. Applications are accepted through May.

MS/Residency Sample Program

Admissions Requirements for the MS / Residency Program

- ❑ Completed ORMS residency application.
- ❑ Optometry degree transcripts indicating a minimum 3.00 cumulative GPA for the OD program.
- ❑ Personal statement detailing interests in the MS program and expectations.
- ❑ Two references attesting to the applicant's analytical or research skills and potential for success in a clinical research program.
- ❑ US citizenship or legal residency.



MS PART-TIME PROGRAM

A part-time MS degree program is available. This applies to current SCCO full-time faculty, or to practitioners who desire to broaden their understanding and capabilities. Applications are accepted through May and are available to graduates of Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) accredited optometry programs.

Admissions Requirements for the MS Part-Time Program

- ❑ Optometry degree transcripts indicating a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA for the OD program.
- ❑ A personal statement detailing interests in the MS program and expectations.
- ❑ Two references attesting to the applicant's analytical or research skills and potential for success in a clinical research program.
- ❑ NBEO scores.
- ❑ US citizenship or legal residency.

INFORMATION FOR ALL MS PROGRAMS

Application Process

Applicants may request information and an application package by contacting the SCCO Office of Student Affairs at 714.449.7444 or admissions@scco.edu.

Once an application package is complete, it will be forwarded to the Assistant Dean for Graduate Studies. The application will be reviewed and the applicant will either be interviewed or advised of a decision not to admit. No application will be considered complete, and no admissions decision will be made, without a personal interview.

Instructions for Completing the Application

The application will be processed only after all forms and documents are received. An application is not complete until the following materials have been received:

- ❑ The **Application for Admission** (non-refundable processing fee of \$65).
- ❑ Letters of recommendation as described in the Admission Requirements.
- ❑ A 300–500 word Personal Statement regarding your current goals, plans for your professional career, and reasons for selecting a field of study.
- ❑ One copy of the official transcript(s) of all previous college and university work, documenting each course taken and all degrees awarded.

Transcripts

Applicants must submit an official transcript from each college and university attended. An official transcript bears the original signature of the registrar and/or the original seal of the issuing institution. Transcripts should be mailed directly by a registrar to the SCCO Office of Student Affairs, 2575 Yorba Linda Blvd., Fullerton, CA 92831.

Accuracy of Information

The submission of any false or misleading information of any kind in support of an application for admission to the Graduate program of the Southern California College of Optometry can result in the permanent cancellation or rescission of admission by the

TEN QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD ASK WHEN SELECTING AN OPTOMETRY COLLEGE



6. What kind of assistance is provided for the NBEO?

Breanne Flores, Class of 2013

West Covina, California
B.A., Loyola Marymount University
Co-President, Private Practice Club, SCCO
Class Council Treasurer, SCCO
Past Class Council Historian, SCCO

Preparation for the NBEO exams begins on Day 1 of your career at SCCO. Studying for your classes prepares you for the exams. The College hosts a national review course for Part I for which students voluntarily register and pay a fee.

Now in my second year at SCCO, I'm more fascinated than ever with optometry. Optometry is an amazing field. I never knew the full scope. I love it more and more every day.

**MACKENSIE DASE,
CLASS OF 2014**

*Victorville, California
B.A., University of
California, Riverside
Student Ambassador,
SCCO*

Assistant Dean for Graduate Studies. It is the responsibility of the applicant that all information is accurate and complete.

Curriculum Overview

The Master of Science in Vision Science (MS) will be a research-based graduate degree. Research is a vital part of the ongoing development of the profession and is incorporated into the mission statement of the College. The MS program will emphasize hypothesis-driven

research and the development of analytical skills in experimental optometry and vision science.

Each of the four MS program tracks will incorporate the development and presentation of seminars and formal lectures in specific courses to develop the students' skills in scientific presentations. Moreover, all degrees will incorporate the design and conduct of an original research project, a written thesis, and defense of the thesis before a graduate committee.

The required coursework taken in the MS degree program will provide the student with an in-depth understanding of vision science principles and concepts. The elective coursework will further emphasize the specific sub-discipline that is of interest to the student. The research undertaken in fulfillment of the MS degree will provide new knowledge for the profession and train the student in the conduct of sound research. Thus, the background in the required and elective coursework combined with the research training will prepare the student to enter a career as an educator and/or researcher. This career could be in an academic, institutional, corporate, or clinical setting.

CURRICULUM DETAILS

MS Degree Requirements

- ❑ Completion of the curriculum requirements.
- ❑ Completion of a minimum of 60 quarter-hours of graduate credit.
- ❑ A cumulative graduate grade point average of at least 3.00.

- ❑ Completion of the Master's research requirement, successful defense of the MS thesis, and submission of a final bound copy of the thesis.

CORE REQUIREMENTS

Core Required Courses for the MS Degree Program

- ❑ BVS 910 Ocular Anatomy and Physiology (4 credits)
- ❑ BVS 920 Sensory Neuroscience (4 credits)
- ❑ BVS 940 Visual Optics (4 credits)
- ❑ BVS 950 Sensory Processes and Perception (4 credits)
- ❑ BVS 951 Psychophysical Methods and Experimental Designs (4 credits)
- ❑ BVS 900 Special Topics, Individual Studies and Advanced Topics courses in Vision Science are also offered (1 – 4 credits)

To qualify for the MS degree, a student must pass three (3) of the above core courses plus the seminars BVS 952: Ethics in Research (2 credits); BVS 901: Teaching in the Visual Sciences (2 credits); and BVS 902: Biostatistics (2 credits).

Required course total = 18 credits

SPECIAL TOPICS

To qualify for the MS degree, a student must pass at least three (3) of the following seminars:

- ❑ BVS 911 Vegetative Physiology of the Eye
- ❑ BVS 912 Visual Physiology of the Eye
- ❑ BVS 921 Color Vision
- ❑ BVS 922 Lateral Geniculate Nucleus & Cortex
- ❑ BVS 923 Receptors & Cell Signaling Pathways
- ❑ BVS 930 Ocular Biochemistry
- ❑ BVS 931 Ocular Pharmacology
- ❑ BVS 932 Ocular Pathology
- ❑ BVS 941 Optics of the Eye
- ❑ BVS 953 Spatial-Temporal Processes
- ❑ BVS 954 Ocular Motility
- ❑ BVS 955 Binocular Vision
- ❑ BVS 956 Visual Perception
- ❑ BVS 957 Accommodation
- ❑ BVS 958 Visual Development
- ❑ BVS 959 Vision & Reading

Each of the above seminars shall be a 3-credit course.

Total minimum seminar credits = 9 credits.

**TEN
QUESTIONS
YOU SHOULD
ASK WHEN
SELECTING AN
OPTOMETRY
COLLEGE**



7. What are the opportunities for leadership and involvement in the profession?

Jacqueline Vu, Class of 2014

San Jose, California
 B.S., University of California, San Diego
 Dr. Vincent and Nina Conlan Memorial Endowed
 Scholarship
 President, Class of 2014, SCCO
 Admissions Committee, SCCO
 Student Ambassador, SCCO

Through the SCCO Student Association, of which all students are members, students are invited to take an active part in the governance of the College as student representatives serving on the administrative and faculty committees. The mission of the Student Association Board of the Southern California College of Optometry is to represent and act on behalf of the student body to enhance the quality of education, improve student life, and promote student involvement in our profession and the community.

MS RESEARCH

The Master of Science in Vision Science at the Southern California College of Optometry emphasizes the development and execution of an original vision research project. Each student must write a paper based on the student's research activities. The paper must be of publication quality.

A Master's thesis describing this project is required for completion of the program and will be reviewed by a Thesis Committee. Time spent planning, carrying out the research project, data analysis, and writing the thesis will be assigned Course BVS 960. This can be from 1 – 12 credits per quarter.

Total minimum thesis credits = 33 credits.

The MS degree also requires a defense of the thesis.

**MASTER OF SCIENCE
IN VISION SCIENCE
CURRICULUM, 2011–12***

Number	Course Title	Units/Qtr	Req'd	Elective
BVS 910	Ocular Anatomy & Physiology	4	✓	
BVS 911	Vegetative Physiology of the Eye	3		✓
BVS 912	Visual Physiology of the Eye	3		✓
BVS 920	Sensory Neuroscience	4		✓
BVS 921	Color Vision	3		✓
BVS 922	Lateral Geniculate Nucleus & Cortex	3		✓
BVS 923	Receptors & Cell Signaling Pathways	3		✓
BVS 930	Ocular Biochemistry	3		✓
BVS 931	Ocular Pharmacology	3		✓
BVS 932	Ocular Pathology	3		✓
BVS 940	Visual Optics	4	✓	
BVS 941	Optics of the Eye	3		✓
BVS 950	Sensory Processes & Perception	4	✓	
BVS 951	Psychophysical Methods & Experimental Designs	4	✓	
BVS 952	Ethics in Research	2	✓	
BVS 953	Spatial-Temporal Processes	3		✓
BVS 954	Ocular Motility	3		✓
BVS 955	Binocular Vision	3		✓
BVS 956	Visual Perception	3		✓
BVS 957	Accommodation	3		✓
BVS 958	Visual Development	3		✓
BVS 959	Vision & Reading	3		✓
BVS 900	Special Topics	1 – 4		✓
BVS 901	Teaching in the Visual Sciences	2	✓	
BVS 902	Biostatistics	2	✓	
BVS 960	Thesis	1 – 12	✓	

Completion of the program requires a total of 60 units of which 27 units are from course work and 33 units are from the research thesis.

*Course descriptions may be found by accessing the College's website at: www.scco.edu.

BVS: Department of Basic & Visual Sciences

Vision Care Assistant Program

OVERVIEW

The Southern California College of Optometry (SCCO), Vision Care Assistant Program (VCA), educates students to provide a wide range of support services in an eye care practice in an efficient and professional manner. The program is designed to teach the skills that will enable the assistant to become a highly qualified and valued member in the eye and vision care field.

VCA is a rewarding career as one can work in a variety of settings – private practice, clinical or retail. The U.S. population is aging and their eye care needs will increase, placing a high demand for skilled personnel. Potential employers will recognize the prestige associated with a certificate from SCCO. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average annual earnings in this field are \$32,700 per year with additional incentives available in certain settings.

The educational format of the VCA program is a combination of classroom, laboratory and clinical experience. Hands-on experience in office management and in-depth knowledge of the equipment, procedures and techniques common in eye care practices will be emphasized. Students will enjoy an education that fully prepares them for a career working with doctors and patients in an eye care practice.

The course of study is planned around three modules to provide students with applied education in distinct areas:

MODULE ONE — OFFICE MANAGEMENT & OPTICAL DISPENSING

This module includes an introduction to the US health care system, and the ophthalmic industry, medical and ophthalmic terminology, optical theory and visual optics, professional ethics and the law, electronic medical records, HIPAA (federally mandated patient privacy), health care insurance and optical coding. The insurance portion will provide students with knowledge of the common vision and medical eye care insurance providers, and the understanding of various codes used appropriately for billing procedures in eye care. The skill set needed to manage the business aspects of an eye care practice will be emphasized, including front desk operations, interpersonal and communication skills, and electronic medical records. Resume writing and interview skills



will also be covered to assist students as they prepare to enter the job market. There will also be a focus on the skills needed to assist patients with lifestyle dispensing, frame and lens selection, frame repairs, inventory control and product marketing.

MODULE TWO — PATIENT CARE ASSISTING

This module is designed to teach the student those technical patient care skills needed in an eye care practice. Topics will include basic first aid, ocular and systemic anatomy and physiology, and medical terminology. Additional health procedures education will cover eye medications, ocular conditions, and pre – and post-surgical procedures. Skills presented in this module will include patient history taking, pre-testing procedures, and application of automated diagnostic instrumentation used in practice. Contact lens care will be covered, including detailed instructions on insertion, removal and safe care of contact lenses.

MODULE THREE — CLINIC INTERNSHIP

This module is comprised of 3 clinical rotations in three separate private practice settings. The locations of the rotations will be specially selected for the students to practice and perfect their new skills.

SCCO ADMISSIONS / VISION CARE ASSISTANT PROGRAM

Admissions Requirements

- ❑ Minimum of 18 years of age
- ❑ Proof of US citizenship or legal residency
- ❑ Proof of High School Completion or GED
- ❑ Evidence of the completion of a basic computer class
- ❑ Good manual dexterity to work with small instruments and devices
- ❑ Personal Interview

Additional Requirements

- ❑ TB test will be required
- ❑ A strict dress code for classroom and patient care activities will be adhered to (see Student Handbook for details)
- ❑ A health care approved lab coat will be worn for all patient care activities
- ❑ The instructional framework of lectures, lab and clinic will range from 160 -180 content hours per module (each quarter)

Duration of Program

- ❑ Each of the three modules will be taught in a 12 week quarter system, Fall, Winter and Spring
- ❑ The classes will be held two evenings a week and select Saturdays

Instructions for Completing the Application

- ❑ The application will be processed only after all forms and documents are received.
- ❑ The **Application for Admission** for the VCA Program (non-refundable processing fee of \$45)
- ❑ One copy of the official High School and/or College transcript(s) or proof of GED.

An official transcript bears the original signature of the registrar and/or the original seal of the issuing institution. Transcripts should be mailed directly by a registrar to the SCCO VCA Program, 2575 Yorba Linda Blvd., Fullerton, CA 92831. Proof of GED should be mailed to same address.

Accuracy of Information

The submission of false or misleading information of any kind in support of an application for the admission to the Vision Care Assistant Program of the Southern California College of Optometry can result in the permanent cancellation or rescission of admission. It is the responsibility of the applicant to submit accurate and complete information.

TEN QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD ASK WHEN SELECTING AN OPTOMETRY COLLEGE



8. What types of patients will I see?

Daniel J. Brinchman, Class of 2014

San Diego, California
B.S., University of California, San Diego
Student Association Board, Department of Student
Relations, SCCO
Co-President, Omega Delta, SCCO
Student Ambassador, SCCO

SCCO's Outreach Clinical Program has been cited by the ACOE as "unparalleled in optometric clinical education." Its mission has been to deliver the highest quality patient care and to educate interns in the art and science of optometry in diverse healthcare delivery environments.

Fourth-year interns perform four three-month rotations — one on campus at the Eye Care Center and the other three at one of 81 outreach clinical sites. Interns decide on which sites they want based on their specific interests, allowing them to tailor the last year of their education to meet their needs. SCCO's clinical sites span the United States. We also have sites in Canada, Guam and Japan. SCCO clinical facilities have been very successful in supplying the necessary patient base and as a result, an intern will see upwards of 1,800 patients before graduation.



VISION CARE ASSISTANT PROGRAM CURRICULUM, 2011-12*

Course #	Quarter	Title
VCA 100	Fall	Office Management & Optical Dispensing
VCA 101	Winter	Patient Care Assisting
VCA 102	Spring	Clinic Internship

VCA 100 – Office Management & Optical Dispensing

- US Health Care Eye Care Systems
- Eye Care in the US (Optometry, Ophthalmology, Optical)
- Medical/ Accounting Terminology
- Inter-Personal & Communication Skills
- Legal & Ethical Considerations
- Front Desk Operations – working with the Public
- Health Insurance Systems & Coding
- HIPAA & Confidentiality
- Electronic Medical Records
- Resume Writing/ Interview Skills
- Introduction to the Optical Industry
- Optical Theory/ Visual Optics
- Ophthalmic Lenses
- Lensometry
- Frame Selection
- Lifestyle Dispensing
- Inventory Control
- Optical Coding
- Ordering & Verification
- Optical Marketing

VCA 101 – Patient Care Assisting

- Patient Service/ Satisfaction
- Anatomy & Physiology - Ocular & Systemic
- Basic First Aid
- Ocular Conditions – An Overview
- Ophthalmic Instruments
- History Taking
- EMR Recording/ Scribing
- Electronic Billing
- Clinical Testing Procedures
- Ophthalmic Medications
- Contact Lens Care
- Pre & Post Op Procedures

VCA 102 – Clinic Internship

- Rotation I
- Rotation I
- Rotation I
- Rotation II
- Rotation II
- Rotation II
- Rotation III
- Rotation III
- Rotation III
- Seminars

*Course descriptions may be found by accessing the College's website at: www.scco.edu.

VCA: Vision Care Assistant

Financial Information

TUITION AND FEES

SCCO is a private, non-profit, independent, educational institution that does not seek, nor receive any direct government funding for its operations. Tuition and fees, however, are less than half of the total operating revenues of the College. The balance of operating revenues include contributions from individuals, alumni, corporations and foundations, as well as income from endowments, investments, continuing education programs, and College vision care centers.



FEES

Secondary Application Fee / OD Program (payable with application)	\$65.00
Application Fee / MS Program	\$65.00
Application Fee / VCA Program	\$45.00
Matriculation Fee / OD Program (paid upon acceptance and credited to Fall Quarter tuition upon enrollment)	\$1,500.00
Matriculation Fee / VCA Program (paid upon acceptance and credited to Fall Quarter tuition upon enrollment)	\$500.00
Annual Student Association Fee	\$105.00
Parking Fee	
Non-reserved per quarter;	
All Students except 4th Year OD	\$36.00
Non-reserved per year; 4th Year OD Students	\$45.00
Diploma/Graduation Fee	\$100.00
Late Payment of Tuition Fee	\$25.00
Transcripts	\$20.00
Verification of Graduation	\$20.00
Audit per unit / OD Program	\$100.00
Evaluation of transcripts in special cases (advanced standing OD Program)	\$350.00
Equipment Fees / VCA Program	\$450.00

TUITION

2011-2012, WICHE Contract Students / Doctor of Optometry Program	Summer Quarter	Fall Quarter	Winter Quarter	Spring Quarter	Total
1st Year Tuition	-0-	\$10,205	\$10,205	\$10,205	\$30,615
WICHE Support Credit	-0-	-0-	-5,595	-10,205	-15,800
Matriculation Credit (1st Year Only)	-0-	-1,500	-0-	-0-	-1,500
Net Tuition: 1st Year WICHE Students	-0-	\$8,705	\$4,610	-0-	\$13,315
Net Tuition: 2nd Year WICHE Students	-0-	\$10,205	\$4,610	-0-	\$14,815
Net Tuition: 3rd Year WICHE Students	\$7,653.75	\$7,161.25	-0-	-0-	\$14,815
Net Tuition: 4th Year WICHE Students	\$7,653.75	\$7,161.25	-0-	-0-	\$14,815

2011-2012, NON-WICHE Contract Students / Doctor of Optometry Program	Summer Quarter	Fall Quarter	Winter Quarter	Spring Quarter	Total
1st Year Tuition	-0-	\$10,205	\$10,205	\$10,205	\$30,615
Matriculation Credit (1st Year Only)	-0-	-1,500	-0-	-0-	-1,500
Net Tuition: 1st Year NON-WICHE Students	-0-	\$8,705	\$10,205	\$10,205	\$29,115
Net Tuition: 2nd Year NON-WICHE Students	-0-	\$10,205	\$10,205	\$10,205	\$30,615
Net Tuition: 3rd Year NON-WICHE Students	\$7,653.75	\$7,653.75	\$7,653.75	\$7,653.75	\$30,615
Net Tuition: 4th Year NON-WICHE Students	\$7,653.75	\$7,653.75	\$7,653.75	\$7,653.75	\$30,615
Tuition (less than full time) per unit					\$850

2011-2012 Tuition, Master of Science in Vision Science

The tuition for the MS program is equivalent (on a per credit basis) to the OD program. Currently, the MS program tuition is waived for the OD/MS candidate.

2011-12 Tuition, Vision Care Assistant Program

The tuition for the VCA program is \$7,500. Module One and Module Two are \$3,000 each. Module Three is \$1,500.

Other Costs

Cost estimates for books, instruments, equipment and supplies for each of the three professional years are listed below.

First Year OD Student	\$3,510
Second Year OD Student	\$4,610
Third Year OD Student	\$2,095

It is estimated that the total cost for four years of optometric education, including living costs, is approximately \$199,456.

While the occasion has not previously presented itself, the Board of Trustees of the Southern California College of Optometry does reserve the right to change the tuition and fees or to establish additional fees for special features or services if deemed necessary.

Payment Procedures

Full tuition and fees are due and payable prior to the start of each quarter. Interest will be charged on outstanding balances. A student may not proceed from one academic year to the next without having fully paid the previous year's tuition and fees. Any exceptions must have prior approval of the administration.

Tuition Refund Policy

For official withdrawals, tuition refunds will be pro-rated at intervals of two (70%), three (50%), four (30%),

and five (10%) weeks from the date the quarter begins. A withdrawal is considered official when written notification has been received by the VP/Dean of Academic Affairs stating the student's intention to withdraw from the program.

Return of Title IV Funds / Doctor of Optometry Program

The 1998 Reauthorization, section 484B, requires federal aid recipients to "earn" most of the aid they receive by staying enrolled in college at least half time. Students who withdraw prior to completing 60% of the quarter for which they received federal student aid may be required to return some of the aid they were awarded. SCCO will restore to the appropriate federal fund source a proportional share of institutional charges that the borrower has paid. This "return of Title IV aid" will reduce the outstanding loan balances. If there is an amount still owed to the government after SCCO returns funds, the student will be responsible to return portions of unearned funds. If you are entitled to a refund from the College, any refund will be first applied to your obligation to return "unearned" aid before you receive money back. Thus, portions of institutional refunds may be applied on your behalf to your outstanding Direct Loan and Perkins Loans and not actually refunded directly to you. Non-federal aid is not included in the calculation. Students whose Title IV aid consists only of Federal Work-Study (FWS) earnings are not included in the calculation.

Tuition Prepayment Policy / Doctor of Optometry Program

Any student wishing to prepay his/her tuition for one, two, or three years beyond the current year's tuition may prepay his/her future tuition at the current year's tuition rate provided the full payment for the current year and for each subsequent year(s) is received by SCCO's Controller no later than thirty (30) days following the opening of the school year. Future annual tuition increases will not be charged to those students who have elected to fully prepay their future tuition.

Any student who is dismissed or officially withdraws from the program, as per the requirements stated in the SCCO catalog, will have his/her prepaid tuition returned, except for the current year's tuition, which will be refunded as per the policy stated in the current college catalog.



Student Policies and Procedures

ATTENDANCE

The College requires regular attendance at all lecture, laboratory and clinic sessions to which the student is assigned. The record of attendance is the responsibility of each individual instructor. Permission to be absent must be obtained from the VP/Dean of Academic Affairs. Instructors are not obligated to provide special consideration in the case of unexcused absences. Repeated unexcused absences may result in a student being placed on professional probation.

The academic credits at the Southern California College of Optometry are described in terms of quarter units. One unit of credit represents one hour per week in the classroom throughout the quarter, or a specified period per week devoted to laboratory or clinical work.

All students within a class follow the same academic schedule. First- and second-professional year students must be registered for a minimum of 12 units per quarter to be considered full-time. Third- and fourth-year professional students must be registered for a minimum of 9 units per quarter to be considered full-time. Student enrolled in the MS in Visual Science program who are not concurrently in the Doctor of Optometry degree program must be enrolled in 12 units per quarter to be considered full-time. Students enrolled in the Vision Care Assistant Program must be enrolled in 12 units per quarter to be considered full-time. If students must carry a smaller academic load, permission must be obtained from the VP/Dean of Academic Affairs.

Final examinations are held in each course and are required of all students taking the course. At the discretion of the instructor, other examinations may be required during the quarter. All students must take all examinations, including final examinations, at the assigned time, unless prior arrangements have been approved by the Instructor of Record. If a student must miss an exam because of an emergency, they must call the Office of Student Affairs or the Office of Academic Affairs prior to the start of the exam. All missed exams must be made up within three days of the student's return to the campus. Failure to take any examination at the designated time may be considered an unexcused absence. In such circumstances, the Instructor of Record may impose a penalty, including an exam score of zero. Course grades are assigned by the Instructor of Record.

ADVANCED UNITS

A student may apply for substitution of specific units already earned at another institution for specific courses in the curriculum. Permission to make the substitution will depend upon the evaluation of the equivalence of such credits in terms of the aims and purposes of the whole optometry curriculum. Forms are available from the Office of Student Affairs and must be submitted to the Instructor of Record no later than the end of the second full week of the quarter. Awarding of Advanced Standing credit will depend upon the student successfully completing an examination no later than mid-quarter to demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and/or skills that the course is designed to impart.

ACADEMIC STANDING

Academic standing of students is indicated by the following grades:

- A — Outstanding
- B — Above Average
- C — Average
- D — Below Average, Passing
- F — Failing

The grade point system indicates the academic attainment of the student. Under this system, grade points are assigned for each course according to the following scale: 4 grade points for each unit of A; 3



The faculty are second to none and are here to help us succeed. They teach you what you need to know and make sure that you understand it. At SCCO, I feel like I'm finally working toward my career goal — to become an optometrist.

**HEIDI MILLER,
CLASS OF 2014**

*Modesto, California
B.S., University of
California, Santa
Barbara*

grade points for each unit of B; 2 grade points for each unit of C; 1 grade point for each unit of D; 0 grade points for each unit of F. No grade points are assigned for courses that were incomplete or for courses that have been audited by the student. A student's grade point average is determined by dividing the total number of grade points earned by the total number of units attempted. A cumulative grade point average of 2.00 for all work taken at the Southern California College of Optometry is required for graduation.

For the MS program, a minimum passing grade in a course is a B and an overall minimum grade point average of 3.0 is required for graduation.

Also used are grades E, Incomplete; W, Withdrawal; P, Pass; AS, Advanced Standing; AUD, course audited without credit; FD, remediated failing grade.

E, an incomplete grade, indicates that assignments have not yet been completed. It does not refer to the adequacy of the performance. An incomplete grade for failure to complete assignments must be removed at a time designated by the Instructor of Record; but, no later than three weeks following the completion of the quarter or it will automatically be changed to an F, or failure. An incomplete grade for failure to take a final examination must be made up immediately upon return to campus. A student receiving an E or incomplete grade in a clinical course may have the completion of the work deferred for a period of time longer than three weeks subject to the written approval of the Instructor of Record.

W, or withdrawal, indicates that the student withdrew from the course or the program.

P, or pass, indicates credit given for satisfactory completion of a pass-fail course.

AS, or advanced standing, indicates credit given for previous equivalent work. Forms to waive a course are available from the Office of Student Affairs.

Students receiving an F grade must satisfactorily complete an equivalent course or a remediation program within ten (10) weeks after the completion of the quarter. Students may not begin final exams for the quarter unless remediation of a class in the

previous quarter has been successfully completed. Students receiving an F grade in a clinic course, must repeat the course in the subsequent quarter. For OD students, this will result in a delay in advancement to the Outreach Clinical Program and graduation. Fourth-year students receiving an F grade in a clinical course must satisfactorily pass the course prior to the awarding of a diploma. A fee to remediate deficiencies and for make-up examinations will be charged. Students required to complete clinical courses following the date of graduation will be responsible for tuition charges. Forms are available from the Office of Academic Affairs.

Subject to the student's satisfactory completion of an approved equivalent course, the earned grade will be transcribed. The grade of F remains on the student's record, and both units and grades are computed in the grade point average.

Subject to the student's satisfactory completion of an approved remediation program, the grade of FD will be transcribed. The D grade will then be used to compute the grade point average in place of the grade of F.

Official Change of Grade Requests are available in the Office of Student Affairs and must be filed by the faculty within thirty (30) days of receipt of the report card by the student, for consideration.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

Students will be placed on academic probation if any of the following occur:

1. Cumulative grade point average is below 2.00; with the exception of the MS program that requires a 3.00.
2. Grade point average for each of two consecutive didactic quarters is below 2.00, though cumulative average is above 2.00.
3. When the student receives a grade of F, or failure.
4. When a student receives three or more grades of D in a quarter.
5. When a student receives two unexcused E (incomplete) grades in a quarter.
6. Following a quarter while on probation, a student fails to achieve a quarterly GPA of 2.00 or greater.

A student on probation may not participate in work-study nor hold office in a Class, Student Association, fraternal, or any other student organization. Students on academic probation will be required to participate in the faculty-sponsored Mentoring Program. In addition, students wishing

to participate in off-campus meetings during the academic year must have a minimum 2.50 cumulative GPA and may not be on academic probation.

Note: *Students who are not making satisfactory progress will not be eligible to receive loan monies through programs of the federal government. Students are considered to be making satisfactory progress if they have completed each year's coursework within a maximum of two academic years.*

ACADEMIC DISMISSAL

Students are subject to academic dismissal when any of the following conditions occur:

1. Grade point average at the end of the first quarter of the first professional year in optometry is less than or equal to 1.00.
2. Cumulative grade point average at the end of the second quarter of the first professional year is less than or equal to 1.50.
3. Cumulative grade point average at the end of the third quarter of the first professional year is less than 2.00.
4. Cumulative grade point average falls below 2.00 after having been on probation any previous quarter, with the exception of first-year professional students.
5. When the student attains less than a 2.00 quarterly grade point average in any of three consecutive quarters; with the exception of VCA students.
6. When the student receives more than one failure grade in a quarter.
7. When a student is eligible for probation for the third time.
8. If the student has failed to remediate a grade of F within ten (10) weeks following the completion of the quarter. In the case of fourth-year students, completion must occur prior to the end of the subsequent rotation or within a time specified by the Instructor of Record.
9. In situations not covered by the above rules, if at any time the Committee on Academic Standing determines that the student's academic progress is unsatisfactory.
10. For the MS program, a student will be dismissed if their cumulative grade point average for Master's degree courses is below 3.0 after having been on Academic Probation. The Graduate Committee is responsible for determining a MS student's academic status.

A student may appeal one notice of academic dismissal. The appeal must be in writing, addressed to the Office of Academic Affairs. Students who are dismissed are generally presumed to be dismissed indefinitely. Should a student dismissed for academic reasons be readmitted, he/she will be placed on academic probation and may be required to meet other performance criteria as specified by the VP/Dean of Academic Affairs. A dismissed student may not continue in any degree program of the College as an audit student, observer or participant, unless an appeal of dismissal is under consideration.

DISCIPLINARY STANDING

The administration of the College, with the assistance and endorsement of the Student Association, has established minimum standards of honorable conduct and dress befitting student members of the optometric profession. These standards are set forth in the "Student Code of Conduct" and the "Professional Standards of Dress" that are published in the *SCCO Student Handbook*. All members of the Student Association, faculty and administration are expected to adhere to and enforce these standards, as well as, all other regulations published by the College.

PROFESSIONAL PROBATION

Students will be placed on professional probation if any of the following occur:

1. Failure to comply with the published "Student Code of Conduct."
2. Failure to comply with the published "Professional Standards of Dress."
3. Failure to comply with published College policies.
4. An unexcused absence from a clinical assignment.
5. Repeated unexcused absences from lecture and/or laboratory sessions in any quarter.
6. Failure to meet the behavioral standards expected of a health care professional.

A student who has been placed on professional probation may not hold office in a Class, Student Association, fraternal or other student organization.

PROFESSIONAL DISMISSAL

A student is subject to professional dismissal if any of the following occur:

1. When the student's action and/or conduct reflects discredit on the institution or the profession.
2. If, while on academic or professional probation, a student violates the "Student Code of Conduct" or the "Professional Standards of Dress" policies or manifests behavior that does not meet the institution's minimum standards of conduct.
3. Failure to correct the matter(s) that initially caused the student to be placed on professional probation.

SUSPENSION

A student may be suspended from participating in the College's academic/clinical programs for a period of time up to one year if found guilty of failure to comply with the published "Student Code of Conduct."

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Any student may elect to take a Leave of Absence (LOA) from the program for a specific time period providing that it does not involve more than 180 days, including holidays and educational breaks, within a 12 month time period. A LOA must be requested in writing to the VP/Dean of Academic Affairs no later than one month prior to the start of the LOA in the case of a planned event and must include the reason for the LOA as well as the dates involved. In the case of unforeseen circumstances, for example, a car accident or emergency medical condition, the student must request the LOA in writing as soon as they are physically able to do so. Students may not receive financial aid during the time of the LOA. Students who meet the criteria for the LOA are not considered to have withdrawn from the program for loan repayment purposes.

Any student who is absent for more than one week without submitting a written request in accordance with the regulations for a LOA, will be considered to have withdrawn from the program. As an unexcused/unapproved withdrawal, the student may forfeit any rights to return to the program pending an administrative decision.

Students who are dismissed for academic reasons and given the right to return will be eligible for financial aid when they return to the program at the point at which they left. A student in this situation does not meet the requirements for a LOA, but instead will be considered as eligible for a Withdrawal with

TEN QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD ASK WHEN SELECTING AN OPTOMETRY COLLEGE



9. How will I be assigned to fourth-year rotations?

Vikram Girn, Class of 2014

Stockton, California
B.S., University of California, Davis
Vice President, Class of 2014
Student Ambassador, SCCO

Aside from general optometry, there are five optometric subspecialties — ocular disease, vision therapy, low vision, pediatrics and contact lenses. A fourth-year intern takes into consideration their particular area of interest when deciding upon a rotation site within the Outreach Clinical Program.

A lottery is used where interns who get the most favorable pick for the first rotation get the least in the next round and vice versa. Scope in a clinical program is necessary to provide enough choice and ample opportunity to successfully accommodate an intern's first choice. Our Outreach Clinical Program can accommodate known interests and hopefully, cultivate new ones!

The technology, the Eye Care Center, the curriculum, the faculty, the campus — that's why I chose SCCO. I had a good feeling when I stepped on campus. My family has been very supportive of my decision. SCCO is a good fit for me. I love it here. I love Fullerton; it really feels like home.

**TIMOTHY NG,
CLASS OF 2014**

Oakland, California
B.S., University of
California, Davis
Student Ambassador,
SCCO

Intent to Return (WIR). A student returning earlier to repeat courses not originally failed will not be charged for those courses and will not be eligible for financial aid during that time period.

For students on a LOA, their student loan repayment/grace status may not be impacted during the LOA. Students electing to take a LOA during the fourth professional year may not see patients while on the Leave of Absence. Students, who are considered to be WIR, are no longer enrolled during the time they are away from the program. Their student loans will enter into repayment/grace status effective with the date they left the program.

Students may elect to take a Withdrawal with Intent to Return (WIR) up until the day before the written final exams start in any quarter without academic penalty. The student must request the WIR in writing to the VP/Dean of Academic Affairs and if approved, the student will be permitted to return during the following academic year. During this time period the student will not be considered to be enrolled and their student loans will enter into repayment/grace status effective with the date they left the program. Under no circumstances will students be allowed to take a WIR once final exams have started.

Students who are on academic probation at the time they elect to take a WIR may have their conditions for readmittance reviewed by the Academic Standing and Policy Committee prior to readmission.

ORIENTATION AND REGISTRATION

Matriculation to the College is granted only at the beginning of each academic year. Materials concerning orientation, registration, class schedules, and laboratory assignments will be sent during the Summer months. Students are advised to contact the Office of Student Affairs concerning any questions. Orientation and registration for entering students are held prior to the first day of instruction. Orientation provides an introduction to the College environment

and gives the students both formal and informal opportunities to meet the administration, faculty and students. A tour of the College and ECC acquaints the students with the facilities and equipment with which they will be working and the laboratories of the various departments.

At orientation, students receive a thorough briefing on College policies, procedures and the individual student's relationships to the institution and its faculty.

Matriculation to the VCA program is preferred for the Fall Quarter; if room permits the program will admit students for the Winter or Spring Quarter. Material concerning orientation, registration and class schedules will be sent three weeks before the course begins. Orientation and registration for entering students are held prior to the first day of instruction. A tour of the College and the Eye Care Center will familiarize the students with the facilities and equipment with which they will be working. At orientation, students will be briefed on College policies and procedures.

TRANSCRIPT SERVICE

Transcripts of academic work will not be issued by the Office of Student Affairs unless approved by SCCO's Controller.

VETERANS INFORMATION

The College is approved for the training of veterans pursuant to the requirements of Title 38, U.S. Code. At this College, adequate progress is defined and outlined under the Academic Standing, Probation and Dismissal sections of this catalog.

The Office of Student Affairs keeps complete records of previous education and training for each student enrolled, including students who are veterans. These documents become part of the student's permanent file. As part of the permanent file, the official transcript is updated following the completion of each quarter of coursework. This transcript shows the grade received for each course, the quarter grade point average and the cumulative grade point average.

Official records of all currently enrolled students, including veterans, are monitored for discrepancies in course load, adequate and satisfactory progress and continuous enrollment. The Accounting Office is notified when any of these students' educational benefits should be discontinued for unsatisfactory progress, unsatisfactory conduct and/or withdrawal. The Office of Student Affairs is responsible for keeping all records, including a student's withdrawal from a course and the last date of attendance. Also recorded

are re-enrollments by students who have withdrawn from or received no credit in a course.

The only instance where a student enrolled as a veteran would be permitted to repeat a course would be to remove a failing grade. Again, these students must follow the policies outlined in the catalog's Academic Standing, Probation and Dismissal sections. These sections clearly set forth the standards of academic progress for all students, including veterans. Should a veteran fail to meet these standards, the Office of Student Affairs will immediately notify the Department of Veterans Affairs concerning a student's

academic or disciplinary dismissal. The veteran who fails a course, receives no credit from a course, or withdraws from all coursework is not considered to be making satisfactory progress.

NATIONAL BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN OPTOMETRY (NBEO) / DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY DEGREE STUDENTS

The NBEO administers examinations several times each year. Passage of all parts is required by most state boards in lieu of the written and/or practical examinations for state optometric licensure. SCCO students are eligible to apply for and take the Applied Basic Science (Part I) examination in March of their third professional year. Doctor of Optometry degree students are eligible to take the Clinical Science (Part II) examination in December of their fourth year. Students are eligible to take the Clinical Skills (Part III) examination during their fourth year. All students are required to take Parts I and II of the NBEO. Scores must be submitted to SCCO as a requirement for graduation. Pass rates for SCCO students are consistently above the national average.

STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS

The Southern California College of Optometry makes every effort to comply responsibly, and in a timely manner, with every state and federal government regulation involving the welfare of its students. Following are items of importance that address SCCO's ongoing efforts.

Compliance Statement

The Southern California College of Optometry, in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and The Americans with Disabilities Act, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, or handicap in any of its policies, procedures, or practices; nor does the College, in compliance with the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 and Section 402 of the Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Act of 1974, discriminate against any employees or applicants for employment on the basis of their age or because they are disabled veterans or veterans of the Vietnam era. This nondiscrimination policy covers admission, access, and treatment in College programs and activities, and application for and treatment in College employment practices.

TEN QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD ASK WHEN SELECTING AN OPTOMETRY COLLEGE



10. Can you get personal counseling for financial planning?

Henry Vu, Class of 2014

*Huntington Beach, California
B.S., California State University, Long Beach
Student Ambassador, SCCO*

The members of SCCO's Financial Aid Staff are available to assist students and potential students with financial planning from the beginning of the admissions process and continuing throughout the four years of the program. Because of the personalized approach to financial planning, our alumni are well prepared to meet their obligations after graduation. Our graduates' loan default rates are consistently less than one percent.



In conformance with College policy and pursuant to Executive Orders 11246 and 11375, Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Section 402 of the Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Act of 1974, the Southern California College of Optometry is an equal opportunity employer.

Inquiries regarding the College's equal opportunity policies may be directed to the VP/Dean of Academic Affairs, 2575 Yorba Linda Boulevard, Fullerton, California 92831 714.449.7455, or the Director, Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education.

Sexual Harassment Policy

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination that violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title IX of The Educational Amendments Act of 1972, as clarified by the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1988. It is College policy that each employee and student should be able to work, attend classes, or participate in clinical assignments in an atmosphere that is free of discriminatory intimidation based on sex, as well as intimidation based on race, color, age, religion, national origin, or disability. It is the policy of the Southern California College of Optometry to prevent and eliminate sexual harassment on the campus or

any Outreach Clinical Site by any faculty or staff employee, administrator, student, supervisor or anyone else connected with the College and/or its Outreach Clinical Programs. A complete copy of SCCO's Sexual Harassment Policy may be obtained from the Vice President of Student Affairs, VP/Dean of Academic Affairs, or the Director of Human Resources.

Student Right-to-Know and Campus Security Act

The Southern California College of Optometry continuously strives to provide a safe and secure environment for classroom, work, study, and after hours activities at all College-owned facilities. In accordance with Public Law 101-524, the College

maintains and provides a complete record of all crimes committed on College-owned property. A copy of the report may be obtained from the Vice President of Student Affairs or the Director of Campus Operations.

Privacy of Records

The College complies fully with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, which protects the privacy of students' education records, establishes the right of students to inspect and review their education records, and provides guidelines for the correction of inaccurate or misleading data through informal hearings. Students also have the right to file complaints with the U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202, concerning alleged failure by the College to comply with the act.

Education Code, Section 94312 (f)

Any questions or problems concerning this institution which have not been satisfactorily answered or resolved by the institution should be directed to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Department of Education, Sacramento, CA 94244-2720.

Academic Calendars

SUMMER QUARTER 2011

May 20-30	Third-Year Recess
May 23	Fourth-Year Clinic Rotation I Begins
May 30	Memorial Day Recess
May 31	First Day of Didactic Instruction (Third-Year)
July 4	Independence Day Recess
August 4	Last Day of Didactic Instruction (Third-Year)
August 8-10	Final Examinations
August 11-17	Third-Year Recess
August 17	Fourth-Year Clinic Rotation I Ends
August 18-20	Third-Year Clinic Assignments
August 19	First-Year Orientation Program
August 20	End of Summer Quarter

FALL QUARTER 2011

August 22	First Day of Instruction
August 22	Fourth-Year Clinic Rotation II Begins
September 5	Labor Day Recess
October 28	Last Day of Didactic Instruction
Oct 31-Nov 3	Reading Period
November 2	Fourth-Year Clinic Rotation II Ends
November 4-11	Final Examinations
November 7	Fourth-Year Clinic Rotation III Begins
November 11	End of Fall Quarter

WINTER QUARTER 2011-12

November 14	First Day of Instruction
November 21-27	Thanksgiving Recess (First-, Second- and Third-Year)
November 23-27	Thanksgiving Recess (Fourth-Year)
November 28	Instruction Resumes
Dec 17-Jan 2	Holiday Recess (First- and Second-Year)
Dec 18-Jan 2	Holiday Recess (Third-Year)
Dec 23-Jan 2	Holiday Recess (Fourth-Year)
January 3	Instruction Resumes
February 10	Last Day of Instruction
February 13-16	Reading Period (First- and Second-Year)
February 13-16	Final Examinations (Third-Year)
February 15	Fourth-Year Clinic Rotation III Ends
February 17-24	Final Examinations (First- and Second-Year)
February 20	Fourth-Year Clinic Rotation IV Begins
February 24	End of Winter Quarter
Feb 27-Mar 4	Winter Recess (First-, Second- and Third-Year)

SPRING QUARTER 2012

March 5	First Day of Instruction (First- and Second-Year)
March 19	First Day of Instruction (Third-Year)
May 11	Last Day of Instruction (First- and Second-Year)
May 14-16	Reading Period (First- and Second-Year)
May 16	Fourth-Year Clinic Rotation IV Ends
May 18	Last Day of Instruction (Third-Year)
May 17-24	Final Examinations (First- and Second-Year)
May 21-23	Final Examinations (Third-Year)
May 24	End of Spring Quarter
May 25	Commencement

*Subject to Change

SUMMER QUARTER 2012

May 25-June 1	Third-Year Recess
May 26, 28	Memorial Day Recess
May 29	Fourth-Year Clinic Rotation I Begins
June 5	First Day of Instruction (Third-Year)
July 4	Independence Day Recess
August 2	Last Day of Instruction (Third-Year)
August 6-8	Final Examinations
August 9-15	Third-Year Recess
August 15	Fourth-Year Clinic Rotation I Ends
August 16-18	Third-Year Clinic Assignments
August 17	First-Year Orientation Program
August 18	End of Summer Quarter

FALL QUARTER 2012

August 20	First Day of Instruction
August 20	Fourth-Year Clinic Rotation II Begins
September 3	Labor Day Recess
October 26	Last Day of Instruction
Oct 29-Nov 1	Reading Period
October 31	Fourth-Year Clinic Rotation II Ends
November 2-9	Final Examinations
November 5	Fourth-Year Clinic Rotation III Begins
November 10	End of Fall Quarter

WINTER QUARTER 2012-13

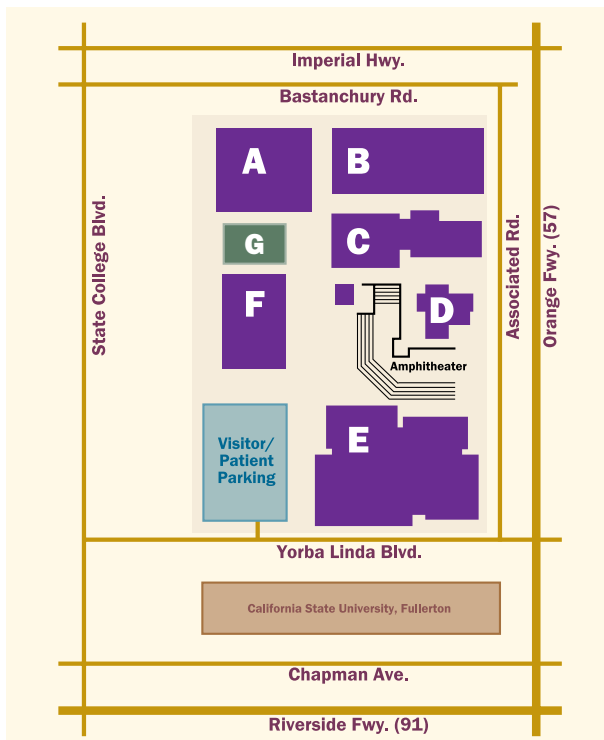
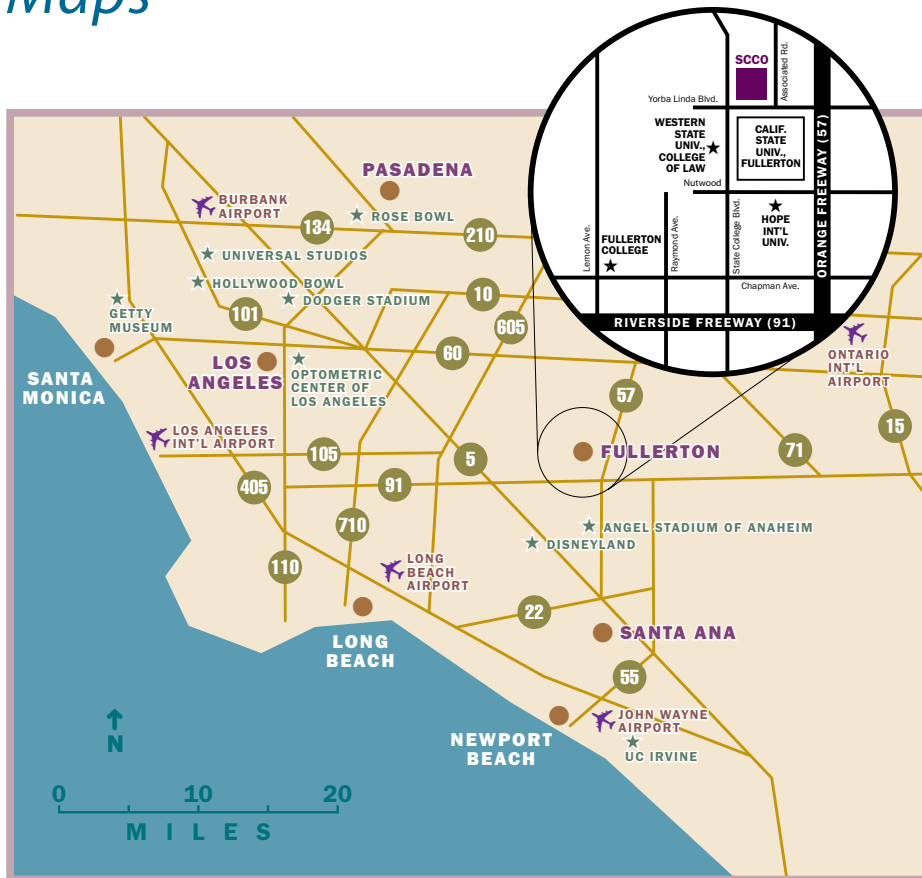
November 12	First Day of Instruction
Nov 19-25	Thanksgiving Recess (First-, Second- and Third-Year)
Nov 21-25	Thanksgiving Recess (Fourth-Year)
November 26	Instruction Resumes
Dec 15-Jan 1	Holiday Recess (First- and Second-Year)
Dec 16-Jan 1	Holiday Recess (Third-Year)
Dec 21-Jan 1	Holiday Recess (Fourth-Year)
January 2	Instruction Resumes
February 8	Last Day of Instruction
February 11-14	Reading Period (First- and Second-Year)
February 11-14	Final Examinations (Third-Year)
February 13	Fourth-Year Clinic Rotation III Ends
February 15-22	Final Examinations (First- and Second-Year)
February 18	Fourth-Year Clinic Rotation IV Begins
February 22	End of Winter Quarter
Feb 22-Mar 2	Winter Recess (First-, Second- and Third-Year)

SPRING QUARTER 2013

March 4	First Day of Instruction (First- and Second-Year)
March 18	First Day of Instruction (Third-Year)
May 10	Last Day of Instruction (First- and Second-Year)
May 13-15	Reading Period (First- and Second-Year)
May 15	Fourth-Year Clinic Rotation IV Ends
May 17	Last Day of Instruction (Third-Year)
May 16-23	Final Examinations (First- and Second-Year)
May 20-22	Final Examinations (Third-Year)
May 23	End of Spring Quarter
May 24	Commencement

*Subject to Change

Maps



THE CAMPUS

- A Richard Hopping Academic Center
- B Faculty, Staff and Student Parking
- C Basic and Clinical Sciences
- D Administration
- E Carling Huntington Childs Family Eye Care Center
- F Student and Faculty Center/Campus Store
- G Patricia Hopping Commons

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Parking:

Visitor parking is available in the "Visitor & Patient Parking Lot" located on Yorba Linda Boulevard.

Admissions & Financial Aid Information:

Proceed to the Student Affairs Office, Building D, Second Floor.

Interviews:

Proceed to the Student Affairs Office, Building D, Second Floor.



APPLICANT RESOURCES

Doctor of Optometry and Master of Science Programs

SCCO's Student Affairs Office is here to help:

- ❑ **Events:** Spring Admissions Open House and Summer Admissions Workshops are programs designed to help prospective students learn more about the profession and increase their competitiveness as an applicant.
- ❑ **Social Networking:** SCCO's own Director of Admissions, Dr. Jane Ann Munroe hosts a Facebook Group for Pre-Optometry Students. Ask your questions, share in discussion forums and learn more about the specifics of applying.
- ❑ **SCCO On-the-Road:** Check the on-line schedule for a visit to your campus.
- ❑ **Visit Our Campus:** No better way to see our beautiful campus. Call the Student Affairs Office to schedule a visit. Having first-hand knowledge of the campus and its locale is an integral part of the decision-making process.
- ❑ **Choosing a College? Ask the Right Questions:** For a detailed list of questions every pre-optometry student should ask of an optometric program review the pages of this on-line catalog throughout which the questions and answers are noted or visit our website at: www.scco.edu/whychoose.html

VISION CARE ASSISTANT PROGRAM

All prospective students are encouraged to contact:

- ❑ Director of Vision Care Assistant Program
714.872.5682 • Fax 714.992.7809
www.scco.edu/vca

This catalog does not constitute a contract between the student and the College. Due to the dynamic and changing nature of curriculum and policy, the information contained herein is subject to change. The reader is referred to the most current information as contained within the electronic version of this document, which can be accessed at the following website location: www.scco.edu.

SCCO DIRECTORY

Board of Trustees


www.scco.edu/directory/boardoftrustees

Administration

www.scco.edu/directory/index

Faculty

www.scco.edu/directory/index



Southern California College of Optometry
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