

# Prepare for a Healthcare Career as an **Optical Technician**





**WE ALL DREAM OF SUCCESS. OUR GOAL IS TO HELP YOU ACHIEVE IT.**

## Meet American Career College

With more than 45 years of experience in healthcare training and more than 70,000 graduates, ACC is here to help you make your goals a reality.

Our classes are modeled after real-life scenarios, using the same medical tools and equipment you'll use on the job. That way, you're prepared to jump in on your very first day. We provide education focused on real-world skills and knowledge, giving our students the opportunity to change their lives for the better.

### What is an Optical Technician?

Choosing the right eyeglasses or lenses is an important decision. Optical technicians are there to help clients find the right choice for them. They assist in fitting eyeglasses and contact lenses, and provide information on frames, tints, and coating.<sup>1</sup>

Optical technicians typically work in optometrists' offices, optical labs, retail vision centers, and ophthalmologists' offices.<sup>1</sup> They play an essential role in helping clients find the eyewear that is right for them.

### Program Overview

ACC's Optical Technician program aims to prepare you with the hands-on skills you will need to assist patients in obtaining their eyeglasses or contact lenses.

### Optical Technician Skillset



**Conduct Eye Exam Pre-Screening Tests**



**Dispense Eyeglasses**



**Prescription Management**



**Adjust and Repair Frames**



**Edge and Fit Contact Lenses**

<sup>1</sup><https://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/29-2081.00>

## Optical Technician Program

The Optical Technician program is divided into seven learning units called modules. The modules are designed to stand alone, so you can tackle them in any order. Once you have completed all seven modules, you'll gain real-life experience through a 220-hour externship.

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### **OPT-100** Clock Hours **80** | Quarter Credits **6**

#### **Light and Single Vision\***

This module starts with an introduction to light, refraction, and reflection. Students learn basic anatomy and physiology of the eye. Different lens designs, prescription, true powers, transposition, metric system, and diopter power are discussed. Students learn to calculate the horizontal and vertical powers. Refractive errors are discussed. Prentice's Rule is introduced and students calculate induced prism. Students receive hands-on experience in lensometry, frame measurements, and patient measurements. Students practice the steps required to fabricate a pair of single vision glasses. American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards are presented and students' projects are checked according to the standards. Students learn how to tint lenses. Students practice salesmanship through role-playing. Causes and treatments of low vision are discussed. Students are introduced to the personal computer and gain experience utilizing a variety of instructional programs related to theoretical concepts taught in this module.

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### **OPT-200** Clock Hours **80** | Quarter Credits **6**

#### **Multifocals\***

This module starts with an introduction to anatomy and physiology of the eye. Different lens designs, prescription, true powers, transposition, metric system, and diopter power are discussed. Students learn to calculate the horizontal and vertical powers. Refractive errors are discussed. Prentice's Rule is introduced and students calculate induced prism. Students receive hands-on experience in lensometry, frame measurements, patient measurements and progressive lens mapping techniques. Students practice the steps required to fabricate multifocal glasses using plastic, metal, and nylon-chord frames. Vertical imbalance, slab-off, and image jump are discussed. ANSI standards are presented and students' projects are checked according to the standards. Students learn how to tint lenses. Students gain practical experience utilizing a variety of instructional programs related to theoretical concepts taught in this module.

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### **OPT-300** Clock Hours **80** | Quarter Credits **6**

#### **Frames/Lenses\***

In this module, students learn about different lens and frame materials and designs. Students learn about various optical products available in the market. Different lens designs, prescription, true powers, transposition, metric system, and diopter power are discussed. Students learn about prism and Prentice's Rule. Students receive hands-on experience in lensometer, frame measurements, and patient measurements. Students practice

frame standard and anatomical alignments and repairs. ANSI standards are presented and students' projects are checked according to the standards. Students are introduced to salesmanship and the personal computer. Students gain practical experience utilizing a variety of instructional programs related to theoretical concepts taught in this module.

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### **OPT-400** Clock Hours **80** | Quarter Credits **6**

#### **Soft Contact Lenses\***

In this module, students learn about contact lens (CL) terminology and design. They study anatomy and the physiology of the eye as it relates to CL fitting. Diopter power, prescription, and transposition are discussed. Students learn the effect of vertex distance on lens power. Refractive errors are presented. Students learn to fit, insert, and remove soft CLs. Students study the proper care system for these lenses. Students gain hands-on practice with keratometer, slit lamp, and other related instruments to verify CL parameters. Students are introduced to various complications and medical problems related to CL wear. ANSI standards are presented, and customer service and follow-up schedules are discussed.

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### **OPT-500** Clock Hours **80** | Quarter Credits **6**

#### **Rigid Contact Lenses\***

In this module, students learn about contact lens (CL) terminology and design. They study anatomy and the physiology of the eye as it relates to CL fitting. Diopter power, prescription, and transposition are discussed. Students learn the effect of vertex distance on lens power. Refractive errors are presented, and they study the proper care system for these lenses. Students gain hands-on practice with keratometer, slit lamp, and other related instruments to verify CL parameters. Students are introduced to various complications and medical conditions that require specialty contact lens fitting. Keratoconus management is discussed. Presbyopia and multi-focal contact lenses are discussed. ANSI standards are presented, and customer service and follow-up schedules are discussed.

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### **OPT-600** Clock Hours **80** | Quarter Credits **6**

#### **Anatomy/Physiology/Prisms\***

This module starts with an introduction to anatomy and physiology of the eye. Different lens designs, prescription, true powers, transposition, metric system, and diopter power are discussed. Students learn to calculate the horizontal and vertical powers. Refractive errors are discussed. Prentice's Rule is introduced and students calculate induced prism. Strabismus is discussed and students learn about prescribed prism.

Students receive hands-on experience in lensometry, frame measurements, and patient measurements. Students practice the steps required to fabricate a pair of glasses with prescribed prisms. ANSI standards are presented and students' projects are checked according to the standards. Students learn how to tint lenses and students practice salesmanship through role-playing. Students are introduced to the personal computer and gain experience utilizing a variety of instructional programs related to theoretical concepts taught in this module.

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### **OPT-700** Clock Hours **80** | Quarter Credits **6**

#### **Optical Office Procedures\***

This module starts with lectures on anatomy, physiology, and medical disorders. Students learn about lens aberrations, calculation of the best base curves, and how to use the lens clock. Metric system and diopter power are discussed. Students learn about prescriptions, true powers, and transposition. Students receive hands-on practice in lensometer, frame measurements, and patient measurements. Students practice the steps required to fabricate and tint rimless and nylon-chord glasses. ANSI standards are presented and students' projects are checked according to the standards. Students learn duties of optical office and practice salesmanship through role-playing. Students learn about HIPAA and vision care billing. Students practice adjustments and repair frames using hand tools. Students are introduced to the personal computer and gain experience utilizing a variety of instructional programs related to theoretical concepts taught in this module.

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### **EXT-OPT** Clock Hours **220** | Quarter Credits **8.5**

#### **Externship**

The externship course enables students to demonstrate and reinforce the knowledge and skills presented and practiced throughout the training program. Prior to students going on site, they will complete 20 hours of work site professionalism curriculum. This content builds upon the students ability to work well with others, finalize their resume, improve interviewing skills, and manage their time on their externship site. Externs work under the direct supervision of qualified personnel at the externship site and under the supervision of College staff. Externs are evaluated by supervisory personnel, and the evaluations are placed in the student's permanent record. Optical students must complete their externship training to fulfill graduation requirements.

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**PROGRAM TOTAL:** Clock Hours **780**  
Quarter Credits **50.5**

\*Courses delivered in a blended format, a combination of online and on ground.

“ A lot that I picked up from ACC is how to present yourself. They did a lot to help my confidence. ”

- ANGELA E., OPT '23

## Start Your Change Today

### Accreditation

The Los Angeles and Ontario campuses are institutionally accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES). ABHES: 6116 Executive Blvd., Suite 730, North Bethesda, MD 20852, 301-291-7550 / [www.abhes.org](http://www.abhes.org).

#### Student Outcome Information

##### Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES)

Los Angeles, Ontario: <https://americancareercollege.edu/legal/abhes>

##### California Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE)

Los Angeles: <https://americancareercollege.edu/uploads/School-Performance-Fact-Sheets-Los-Angeles-Campus-1.pdf>

Ontario: <https://americancareercollege.edu/uploads/School-Performance-Fact-Sheets-Ontario-Campus.pdf>

#### Program Costs

<https://americancareercollege.edu/catalog/current/financial-information/program-tuition-and-fees/diploma-programs-tuition>

O*Net Occupation Titles	SOC Code	Links to Occupational Profiles on O*Net
Opticians, Dispensing: Optician, Dispensing Optician, Licensed Optician, Optometric Assistant, Certified Optician, Licensed Dispensing Optician, Ophthalmic Dispenser, Optometric Technician, Optical Technician, Contact Lens Technician	29-2081.00	<a href="http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/29-2081.00">http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/29-2081.00</a>
Ophthalmic Laboratory Technicians: Lab Technician, Optical Technician, Surfacing Technician, Finishing Lab Technician, Lens Grinder and Polisher, Optical Lab Technician, Grinder, Edger Technician, Line Operator, Polisher	51-9083.00	<a href="http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/51-9083.00">http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/51-9083.00</a>

To obtain a list of the objective sources of information used to substantiate the salary disclosures, please refer to the California Employment Development Department website at: <https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/Occupational-Guides.html>. ACC provides career guidance and assistance but cannot guarantee employment. Programs lengths vary by schedule and session. The opinion is the individual's sole opinion and not necessarily representative of that of the school, any instructor or any other student.

### Location

[Los Angeles](#) and [Ontario](#) campuses

### Duration

Approximately 9 months

### Schedule

2 days a week on-campus, the rest online

### Enrollment Requirements

Some of the admissions requirements include:

- Must be at least 18 or have a parent's or guardian's signature
- Must have a high school diploma or the equivalent
- Must take and pass entrance exams

Be sure to speak with an admissions advisor to get all the necessary information to apply for the Optical Technician program.

### Instructional Equipment

Here are some of the exciting tools you will get hands-on experience with: diameter gauges, dispensing hand tools, frames, hand edgers, frame hot air warmer, hand magnifier, keratometers, frame ultra sonic cleaner, layout blockers, lens drill, lens clock/geneva clock, lens groovers, lens polishers, lensometers, pupilometers, OptiKam Ipad system, radiuscopes, slit lamps, thickness gauges, tinting units, wet/dry edgers, Topcon CT-80 NCT tonometer, Humphrey visual field analyzer, Burton bark 800 auto refractor/keratometer, digital snellen and monitor.

### Curious to Learn More? Let's Connect

Discover how ACC's program helps set you on the path towards a rewarding career, [connect with an advisor](#) to learn more about the Optical Technician program and explore financial aid options.

**AmericanCareerCollege.edu**  
**1-888-thinkACC (844-6522)**

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