



Optometrist

Optometrists diagnose, treat, and manage diseases and disorders of the visual system. Examples of activities: optometrists perform eye examinations and tests, prescribe corrective lenses, and administer certain drugs that treat eye conditions, among other services.

Education

Complete a minimum of 60 semester hours of preprofessional education from a Department registered program or the equivalent, including courses in general chemistry, organic chemistry, biology or zoology, and physics.

AND

Complete a [Department-registered](#) Doctor of Optometry licensure program, or the equivalent.

Examination

Parts I, II, and III of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry examination.

- ▶ Visit the [Office of the Professions](#) for a listing of all options and requirements.

Video



Salary and Projected Growth

- Median salary: \$106,140 in the U.S., \$119,190 in NY
- Salary range: \$84,410-\$157,000
- Projected growth: much faster than average

Where Could I Work?

- Private or community practice
- Hospitals, clinics, and other public health facilities
- Optical and retail stores
- Colleges and universities

Your Interests and Abilities

- Preparation in the sciences
- Analysis and reasoning
- Hands-on experiences

Professional Skills

- Concern for others
- Attention to detail
- Communication
- Management
- Manual and technical dexterity

What Interests You?

Match your interests and personality to career options!

Explore a free career tool at mynextmove.org/explore/ip

Tip: try searching for mentoring programs—talk to an optometrist about what they do and how they got started!