

# CLAS Academic Advising Center

Academic advising for students pursuing majors and/or minors offered by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Call Us: (616) 331-8585 • Visit us On-line: [www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising](http://www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising)

## Optometry School Application Process

Check your email regularly and make sure your spam filters are not putting communications into your spam box

### Optometry School Admission Requirements

[http://www.opted.org/files/public/Admission\\_Requirements\\_09-10.pdf](http://www.opted.org/files/public/Admission_Requirements_09-10.pdf)

### Admissions Test: OAT

OAT Program Guide: [https://www.ada.org/oat/oat\\_guide\\_2010.pdf](https://www.ada.org/oat/oat_guide_2010.pdf)

**Fee:** \$213 per test [late fee: \$60; reschedule fee: \$60; change of test center fee: \$60]

Payment by credit only; non-refundable

Fee includes official score transcripts sent to 5 schools; \$25 for each additional school

Fee also includes an unofficial score report when you leave. No official score will be sent to you; \$25 for score report reprints

**Limit:** 90 days between tests; no overall number limit

Subtests	
Tutorial (optional)	15 minutes
Survey of Natural Sciences	90 minutes
Biology (40 questions), General Chemistry (30 questions), Organic Chemistry (30 questions)	
Reading Comprehension Test (40 questions)	50 minutes
Break (optional)	15 minutes
Physics Test (40 questions)	50 minutes
Quantitative Reasoning Test (40 questions)	45 minutes
Post Test Survey (optional)	15 minutes

**Scoring:** 200-400; adjusted for a mean of 300

**Writing:** no writing sample

Practice Tests: [https://www.ada.org/oat/oat\\_sample\\_test.pdf](https://www.ada.org/oat/oat_sample_test.pdf)

### Application Service: OptomCAS

OptomCAS Instructions:

[https://portal.optomcas.org/applicants2011/instruction/general\\_instructions.htm](https://portal.optomcas.org/applicants2011/instruction/general_instructions.htm)

Use your FULL legal name, know your OAT ID

Print a copy of your completed application for your reference; turn one in to CLAS Advising for your file

**Fee:** \$125 for one school; \$45 for each additional school

\*Fee is non-refundable, credit card payments are preferred, need OptomCAS payment form if paying by check or money order

**Transcripts:** Transcript Request Form (MUST accompany official transcripts by application deadline)

\*You need a separate form for EACH school you have attended; each form is unique so PAY ATTENTION!

**Repeat Grades:** Enter ALL attempts at courses, regardless of repeats or grades of W. If repeat courses are taken at the same school, only the second attempt is calculated. If repeat courses are taken at different schools both grades are used in calculation

**Re-applicants:** Your information will not be carried over from year to year, you must submit a new application

**Personal Statement:** What inspires your decision for becoming an optometrist?  
4500 characters, including spaces  
Can tailor each statement to individual schools and save as a separate file

**Letters of Recommendation (LORs):** 4 letters may be submitted and MUST be accompanied by the Recommendation Request Form, even for Committee Letter

**Rating of Attributes:** This form must also accompany each letter of recommendation

\*Look at individual schools for specific requirements of number and type of letters

[http://www.optomcas.org/index.php?option=com\\_simplelists&view=simplelist&layout=hover&categoryid=17&Itemid=29](http://www.optomcas.org/index.php?option=com_simplelists&view=simplelist&layout=hover&categoryid=17&Itemid=29)

**Supplemental Applications:** Fees for schools vary and are submitted directly to the colleges; be sure to follow ALL school deadlines

\*Check with individual schools for more information on supplemental applications

**Verification:** Takes 4-6 weeks once ALL required materials are received

**Traffic Rules:** Once you have accepted an offer you must immediately notify and withdraw any outstanding applications or decline offers of admission from other schools

**Acceptances:** Make sure you are meeting any program deadlines

<b>Application Cycle (dates are estimated based on 2010-2011 cycle)</b>	
Year-Round	OAT Administration: must be scheduled with a testing center 60-90 days prior to desired test date; applicant schedules an individual test date following registration
July 15	OptomCAS Opens
December-May	Deadlines for individual programs; check each program for deadlines

#### **Scholarships:**

Optometry's Charity – American Optometry Association Foundation

[www.optometryscharity.org/endowment-fund/scholarship-grants/2010-scholarship-grant-information](http://www.optometryscharity.org/endowment-fund/scholarship-grants/2010-scholarship-grant-information)

The American Optometry Association

[www.aaopt.org/aof/scholarship/index.asp](http://www.aaopt.org/aof/scholarship/index.asp)

U.S. Navy Health Professions Scholarship Program

[www.med.navy.mil/sites/navmedmpte/accessions/pages/healthprofessionsscholarshipprogram\\_prospective.aspx](http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/navmedmpte/accessions/pages/healthprofessionsscholarshipprogram_prospective.aspx)

U.S. Air Force Health Professions Scholarship Program

[www.airforce.com/opportunities/healthcare/education/](http://www.airforce.com/opportunities/healthcare/education/)

U.S. Army Health Professions Scholarship Program

[www.goarmy.com/amedd/education/hpsp.html](http://www.goarmy.com/amedd/education/hpsp.html)

Walmart

[www.walmartstores.com/Careers/7965.aspx](http://www.walmartstores.com/Careers/7965.aspx)

**This form serves only as a guideline to the application process, it is up to you as the applicant to make sure you are meeting any deadlines or requirements outlined by the application and testing services, as well as individual school requirements.**