

Cornea and Contact Lenses and Ocular Disease Residency

Category Title: Cornea and Contact Lenses

Area of Emphasis: Ocular Disease

Offering advanced competency in cornea and contact lens management through education, scholarship, and patient care.



- **Program Sites:** Illinois College of Optometry/Illinois Eye Institute; Chicago Cornea Consultants
- **Residency Coordinator:** Lindsay A. Sicks, OD lsicks@ico.edu
- **Residency Director:** Christine Allison, OD
- **Number of Positions:** 2
- **Program Dates:** The residency is a 53-week program beginning the first week of July. This time frame ensures overlap with current residents to provide an orientation period.
- **Accredited** – The Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) has granted The ICO Cornea and Contact Lens Residency Program the accreditation status of “Accredited.” Accreditation is a classification granted to an educational program indicating that the program generally meets the Standards for accreditation. For more information, see the ACOE’s website at www.theACOE.org or contact the ACOE at accredit@theacoe.org located at 243 N. Lindbergh Blvd., Suite 301, St. Louis, MO 63141; 1-800-365-2219
- **ORMatch** #15113
- **Application deadline:** January 15

Program Description

This unique and challenging program is designed to enable the resident to develop advanced clinical competency in cornea and contact lens management with guided mentorship. The diagnosis, treatment, and management of complex corneal, anterior segment, and contact lens-related conditions is the focus of the program. The resident will gain experience in patient care and clinical teaching. The residency offers clinical experience in both an academic setting and a private practice setting.

Clinical assignments include direct care and precepting responsibilities in the Cornea and Contact Lens Center for Clinical Excellence, the Center for Advanced Ophthalmic Care, and the Urgent Eye Care Service at the Illinois Eye Institute (the primary clinical teaching facility of the Illinois College of Optometry). In this capacity, the resident will work alongside both ODs and MDs in the management of advanced anterior and posterior segment conditions. Clinical work in a private practice setting includes direct care of basic and advanced contact lens cases and corneal disease management.

Throughout the program, particular emphasis is placed on the diagnosis and management of corneal and anterior segment pathology, and the fitting of specialty contact lenses including keratoconic, orthokeratology and myopia control, bifocal, toric and post-operative contact lens designs. Opportunities for clinical research, publication, and individualization of the clinical program are available

Program Objectives/Design

The program will enhance the resident's skills in the diagnosis and management of complex cornea and contact lens patients including keratoconic, presbyopic, orthokeratology, astigmatic, post-surgical, anterior segment disease, dry eye, and urgent care patients. The resident will gain advanced diagnostic skills including performance and interpretation of corneal tomography, profilometry, anterior segment photography, meibography, specular microscopy, ultrasonography, optical biometry, and dry eye diagnostic testing.

In a typical week, the resident is expected to spend at least 44 hours/week doing residency activities. The resident participates in the following activities (times listed are approximate and subject to change):

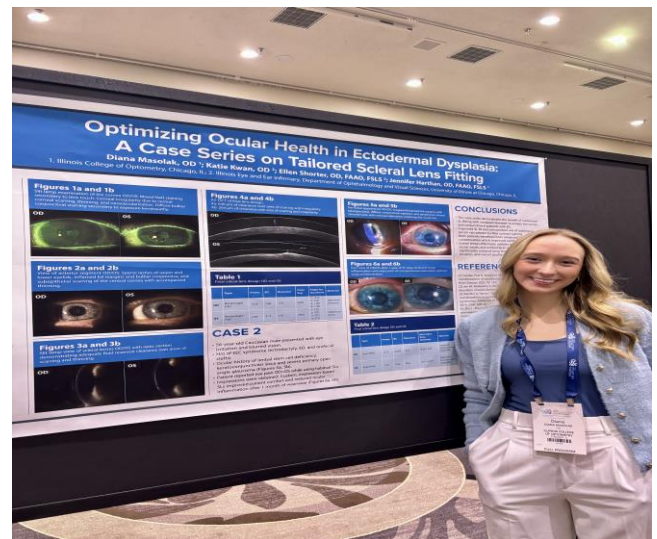
- **Contact Lens: direct care and/or precepting** (16 hours)
- **Advanced Care/Urgent Care: direct care and/or precepting** (8 hours)
- **OD/MD Private Practice: direct care** (8-10 hours)
- **Educational Conference and Rounds** (4 hrs)
- **Development time** (scholarly activity and/or research) (4 hours)
- **Office hours** (3 hours)

Research Responsibilities

Each resident is required to complete a case report, research study, or literature review of publishable quality. It is recommended that the project be presented at an academic meeting or published in a peer-reviewed journal.

Educational Opportunities

The resident attends and participates in weekly Friday conferences that take place on the ICO campus. At the start of the program, the resident attends an on-campus training session, taught by outside experts in education and instruction, to help develop skills as a clinical educator and effective presenter. The resident is also supported to attend several conferences throughout the year, including the GPLI Resident Symposium (required), American Academy of Optometry, and Global Specialty Lens Symposium meetings. The resident is allowed 5 days of academic leave to attend meetings and CE and will utilize remaining vacation time as needed to support their attendance. Travel stipends and grant opportunities are available.



Residency Supervision/ Evaluation Process

The faculty in each clinic supervises and advises the resident. Increasing autonomy develops as the residency progresses. The resident receives quarterly evaluations, in addition to general feedback from the Residency Coordinator. The resident will meet on a weekly basis with the Residency Coordinator for clinical guidance, journal club discussions, and support.

The area supervisors develop each resident's schedule on a quarterly basis. Grand Rounds presentations are given three times a year and are evaluated by the entire faculty. A summary report is generated by the

Residency Coordinator and is then forwarded to and discussed with the resident. The resident is also asked to evaluate their residency experience at the completion of the program.

Salary

\$55,000 per year

Benefits

Vacation time: 11 days

Academic leave: 5 days

Additional holiday time when the Illinois Eye Institute is closed

Group medical and dental insurance with prescription drug coverage

Professional liability insurance for practice/eyecare provided at the Illinois Eye Institute and affiliated sites

Group term life insurance

Short-term disability insurance

Criteria for Completion

- Satisfactory completion of all learning objectives
- Attendance at all clinical assignments
- Attendance and participation at Faculty Conference/Grand Rounds Series and regularly scheduled conferences
- Attendance and participation in all required course work
- A written paper of publishable quality, completed by the end of the residency period

For more information:

Lindsay A. Sicks, OD, FAAO, FIACLE, FSLs

Illinois College of Optometry

3241 S. Michigan Ave.

Chicago, IL 60616

312-949-7110

lsicks@ico.edu