

Optometry Residency in Ocular Disease

University of Chicago Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Science

Category: Ocular Disease

Mission: Offering advanced clinical training in ocular diagnosis and management through patient care, education, and scholarship.

- **Program Site:** University of Chicago, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science
- **Program Coordinator:** Steven C. Quan, OD, FAAO (scquan@bsd.uchicago.edu)
- **Residency Director:** Christine Allison, OD, FAAO
- **Number of Positions:** 1
- **Program Dates:** 53 weeks, starting July 1. There will be one week of overlap between residents.
- **Accredited:** The residency program is accredited by the ACOE (<https://theacoe.org/>)
243 N. Lindbergh Blvd., Suite 301, St. Louis, MO 63141; 1-800-365-2219
- **ORMatch:** 40514

Program Description

We are proud to offer an exceptional 53-week hospital-based optometric residency at the University of Chicago, designed to elevate clinical expertise in ocular disease diagnosis and management. This dynamic program provides a rare opportunity to train in a collaborative optometry and ophthalmology environment, where teamwork and interdisciplinary care are prioritized.

Residents will deepen their understanding of systems-based eye care while mastering the art of communication and co-management across a variety of medical specialties. Clinical experience is customizable and spans both adult and pediatric ocular disease, urgent care, as well as immersive rotations with esteemed ophthalmology sub-specialists.

Beyond hands-on training, education is enriched with engaging grand rounds, interactive lectures, and journal clubs—ensuring comprehensive professional development.

Residents completing the program will gain the necessary experience to:

- Pursue professional & multi-disciplinary opportunities requiring a high-level of expertise in medical eye care.
- Serve as educators and researchers in academic settings.
- Serve the profession of optometry as experts and leaders in the area of ocular disease management.

Program Design: Resident Schedule, Rotations, and Clinical Assignments

Weekly Commitment: 42 hours (average)

Rotations:

- **Adult Ocular Disease:** Comprehensive experience in diagnosis and management (28 hours/week)
- **Consult/Urgent Care:** Acute care and patient consultation (4 hours/week)
- **Ophthalmology Sub-Specialty:** Exposure to diverse disciplines, rotating bimonthly (4 hours/week)
- **Optometry Seminar:** Clinical reviews and case discussions (1 hour/bi-weekly)
- **Ophthalmology Grand Rounds:** Multidisciplinary teaching sessions (1 hour/week)
- **Personal Development:** Dedicated time for professional growth (4 hours/week)

Ophthalmology Sub-Specialty Rotations

- Residents can select from Cornea, Glaucoma, Neuro-Ophthalmology, Oculoplastics, Pediatrics, and Retina
- Each rotation lasts two months and is customizable to residents' interests
- Instruction provided by University of Chicago ophthalmology specialists

Clinical Assignments & Coverage

- **Schedule:** Monday to Friday; no weekend or mandatory on-call duties
- **Clinic Sessions:** Monday through Thursday has 3 sessions; Friday has 2 sessions (no Friday evening)
- **Consults:** Provide urgent outpatient eye care every week during normal business hours (before 4 PM); optional inpatient rounds with ophthalmology residents
- **Evening Shifts:** Minimum of three evening sessions per week, with scheduling flexibility based on educational opportunities
- **Emergent Care Option:** Residents may opt to participate in buddy call with ophthalmology residents during after-hours or weekends if they are interested in emergency care

Clinic Office Hours (Appointment Slots)

Day	Morning Session (1)	Afternoon Session (2)	Evening Session (3)
Mon–Thu	06:45 AM – 10:00 AM	10:45 AM – 02:00 PM	02:45 PM – 06:00 PM

Day	Morning Session	Afternoon Session
Friday	08:00 AM – 11:15 AM	12:00 PM – 03:15 PM

Sample Weekly Rotation Schedule

Session	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	--	--	--	Personal Development	Optometry
2	Consults	Optometry	Neuro	Cornea	Pediatrics
3	Retina	Optometry	Oculoplastics	--	--

Educational Conferences

Education will be provided through weekly grand rounds, journal clubs, lectures, and other didactic activities.

- Optometry Seminars
- Ophthalmology Grand Rounds
- Resident Education Events at ICO

Salary

\$50,000 per year

Benefits

Benefits include eligibility to participate in medical and dental insurance programs, professional liability insurance, vacation, paid sick leave, and a travel allowance to attend optometric conferences.

Eligibility

Entry into the Optometry Residency Program at the University of Chicago requires completion of optometry school accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE). Applicants must prove successful passage of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) Parts I,II, and III, as well as Treatment and Management of Ocular Disease (TMOD). Applicants must be citizens of the United States of America and be eligible for licensure in the State of Illinois.

Non-Discrimination Statement

In keeping with its longstanding traditions and policies, the University of Chicago considers students, employees, applicants for admission or employment, and those seeking access to University programs on the basis of individual merit. The University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, national or ethnic origin, age, status as an individual with a disability, military or veteran status, genetic information, or other protected classes under the law (including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972). For additional information regarding the University of Chicago's Policy on Harassment, Discrimination, and Sexual Misconduct, please see: <https://harassmentpolicy.uchicago.edu/policy-2/> .

Selection

All applications are handled online via the ORMatch System at National Matching Services, Inc. Curriculum vitae, GPA, NBEO scores, three letters of recommendation, and an interview are used for the selection process.

Criteria for Completion

- Successful completion of all clinical assignments
- Attendance and participation at weekly education conferences
- A written paper of publishable quality or case report. The case report can be part of an application for fellowship in the American Academy of Optometry.

Acknowledgement of Completion

A certificate is presented upon successful completion of the program.

Contact Information

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