

## Ferris State University Michigan College of Optometry - Fact Sheet

Ferris State University Michigan College of Optometry (FSU-MCO) and Aquinas College agree to establish a cooperative program of pre-optometry education by which pre-optometry students at Aquinas College shall be granted an early assurance of admission to FSU-MCO through the Early Assurance Program.

The Early Assurance Program provides an enhanced opportunity for admission to optometry school to Aquinas College students. By identifying and developing these students, Aquinas College will make a substantial contribution to the optometry work force of the future and enhance the Aquinas College's presence as a partner in the west Michigan health care community.

### Evaluation of Candidates:

The evaluation of candidates will take into consideration (1) the completion of the required pre-optometry courses, (2) academic performance, specifically, as measured by the grades obtained in chemistry, biology, mathematics, physics and generally, by the grades achieved in all pre-optometry courses, and (3) performance on the OAT. Other factors that are considered include motivation for the study and practice of optometry and demonstration of communication skills that could include optometry practice experience, preparation of a writing sample, participation in an interview and letters of reference.

### Fees:

Only the optometry common application (OptomCAS) fee will be charged.

### Requirements:

Applicants to MCO (Michigan College of Optometry) are required to take the OAT (Optometry Admissions Test). The OAT is a specialized test, which helps identify qualified applicants to optometry colleges by measuring general academic ability and scientific knowledge necessary for successful completion of Doctor of Optometry degree. The OAT must be taken prior to the February 1 application deadline. Additional information for application and administration of the test can be found directly at <http://www.opted.org>.

### Required Pre-optometry Course Work

Ferris State University Michigan College of Optometry is accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education to offer the Doctor of Optometry (O.D.) program. The courses listed below are

the ones that best meet the pre-optometry requirements for the program. Similar or more advanced courses may be acceptable. However, their acceptance should be determined in advance.

Applicants to the Michigan College of Optometry must have earned a baccalaureate degree. Pre-professional college/ university courses must include completion of the following pre-optometry requirements with a grade of C or better.

#### PRE-OPTOMETRY REQUIREMENTS

- GENERAL BIOLOGY: BIO 170 & BIO 171 (2 course minimum requirement)
- MICROBIOLOGY: BIO 210
- INORGANIC CHEMISTRY: CHEM 121 & CHEM 122
- ORGANIC CHEMISTRY: CHEM 221 & CHEM 222
- BIOCHEMISTRY: CHEM 325
- GENERAL PHYSICS: PHYS 201 & PHYS 202
- CALCULUS I: MAT 121
- STATISTICS: MAT 205
- GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY: PSY 100