OPHTHALMIC DESIGN & DISPENSING, AS

Program code: ODD-AS

Location: Middlesex

Program Description

The Ophthalmic Design and Dispensing (OD&D) at Connecticut (CT) State Community College - Middlesex is designed for students that have solid math and problem-solving skills, love to help others and enjoy hands-on work. Students would like to work in a medical-related field, but without the time and financial commitments necessary to earn a PhD. The OD&D program at CT State - Middlesex provides an affordable and flexible Associate Degree to meet student needs. This two-year degree program prepares students for future work as licensed opticians working to help others through the design and dispensing of eyeglasses, contact lenses and low-vision aids.

This program is designed for individuals who are interested in becoming licensed opticians. Successful completion of this program will be accepted in lieu of the four-year, 8000-hour apprenticeship requirement to become a licensed optician in the State of Connecticut. This degree is also accepted in many states to be eligible for licensure.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of all program requirements, graduates will be able to:

1. Communicate effectively through development of proficiency in oral/written/electronic communication skills
2. Demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking and problem-solving skills
3. Complete the requirements for National Certification by the American Board of Opticianry
4. Complete the requirements for National Certification by the National Contact Lens Examiners
5. Demonstrate the practical skills required to successfully complete the optical portion of the State of Connecticut - Board of Examiners State Practical Exam
6. Demonstrate the practical skills required to successfully complete the contact lens portion of the State of Connecticut - Board of Examiners State Practical Exam
7. Demonstrate familiarity with the statutes and regulations in Chapter 381 (Opticians) of the Connecticut General Statutes and Regulations and successfully complete the State Law portion of the State of Connecticut - Board of Examiners State Practical Exam
8. Meet the minimum education requirement for licensing as an optician in all of the states requiring licensure for opticians

How long will you need to go to school?
Most students are able to finish the program within 21 months or 2-calendar years. Our program encourages lifelong learning and many of our students continue on to bachelor's degrees. A small percent of students choose to continue their education to become Optometrists and Ophthalmologists, both of which require Doctoral level degrees.

Job Availability & Growth: Spurred by the demographic of the baby boomers and the elderly, an increasing demand for eyewear and contact lenses should be good for the optician. As the aging population continues to grow, more demand will be created for corrective lenses and a requirement for regular vision care. Fashion will also continue to drive the demand for dispensing opticians. As ophthalmic and contact technology continues to develop the demand for the services of opticians will increase.

The Ophthalmic Design and Dispensing Program is accredited by the Commission on Opticianry Accreditation Kristina Green, Director of Accreditation P.O. Box 73862 North Chesterfield, VA 23235-4735 Email: director@COAccreditation.com Voice: 315-742-8066.

Selective Admission

Enrollment in the program is restricted because of limited lab facilities, and early application is encouraged.

- Only completed applications with all documents will be considered.
- Students are admitted to the fall term only.
- Students must meet with program coordinator and take a program-specific math worksheet as part of the admissions process.
- Students must be eligible for ENG 1010 Composition and MATH 1010 Intermediate Algebra to begin this program.
- Official transcripts are required for transfer credit.
- Ophthalmic Design and Dispensing students must receive a grade of C or better in Ophthalmic Dispensing courses in order to obtain a degree in this program. With an OD&D Degree from CT State Community College - Middlesex, a student can get work in an optical shop, corporate optical business, private Optometrist's office, or a private Ophthalmologist's office.

Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
General Education Courses		
ENG 1010	Composition	3
MATH 1010	Intermediate Algebra	3
or MATH 1600	College Algebra	
Elective ARHX - Arts & Humanities Course		3-4
BIO 1118	Anatomy and Physiology of the Eye	4
PSY 1011	General Psychology I	3
COMM 1301	Public Speaking	3
CCS 1001	College and Career Success	3
Program Courses		
BMGT 2020	Principles of Management	3
OPDD 1001	Introduction to Ophthalmic Dispensing	4
OPDD 1002	Ophthalmic Dispensing I	4
OPDD 1003	Ophthalmic Dispensing II	3
OPDD 1009	Optical Business Management	3
OPDD 1010	Ophthalmic Materials I	4
OPDD 1011	Ophthalmic Materials II	4
OPDD 1020	Contact Lenses I	3
OPDD 1021	Contact Lenses II	4
OPDD 1022	Contact Lenses III	4
OPDD 1030	Low Vision	1
OPDD 1004	Ophthalmic Dispensing III	3
OPDD 1012	Ophthalmic Materials III	4

OPDD 2095	Opticianry Practicum	2
Total Credits		**68-69**