Residency Programs

SUNY, College of Optometry has been conducting year-long optometric residencies since 1974, when the in-house Vision Therapy Residency was instituted. This was the first optometric residency program in the country and the third to receive accreditation status. Since that time, the residency programs affiliated with and at the College have expanded to include 20 programs. The residencies are clinically based, patient care oriented programs. Along with the clinical component there are formal didactic activities which are an integral part of the residency program. All residency programs have the common goal of developing unique skills and competencies in one or more areas of optometric practice. Each program provides a body of knowledge that goes beyond that which is effectively covered in the professional optometric (O.D.) program.

**Cornea & Contact Lens Residency at SUNY**

Supervisor: D. Libassi, OD Email: dlibassi@sunyopt.edu
Positions available: 1

**Mission Statement**

The Cornea and Contact Lens residency, sponsored by the State University of New York State College of Optometry, provides qualified optometrists with advanced clinical education in contact lens patient care. The program will provide four main components: a clinical patient care component, a didactic component that provides advanced knowledge in contact lens care; a teaching component that allows for the acquisition of clinical and classroom educator skills; and research / scholarly activity portion. The resident is scheduled for direct patient care in the areas of anterior segment and specialty contact lens care. Upon completion of the program the resident will be qualified to provide high level patient care in the areas of contact lenses, corneal disease management, and pre / post corneal surgery. It is expected that the graduating resident should be clinically prepared to engage in collaborative contact lens research, counsel related scholarly activities, and function as an optometric educator in this field.

Category: Cornea & Contact Lens (Emphasis: Anterior Segment and Ocular Disease)

**Community Health Optometry/Ocular Disease Residency at NYC Health + Hospitals / Gotham Health East New York and SUNY**

Supervisor: J. Widell, OD Email: jwidell@sunyopt.edu
Positions available: 1

**Mission Statement**

The residency in Community Health Optometry/Ocular Disease Optometry seeks to attract highly qualified optometric graduates who have demonstrated above average entry-level competence in full-scope optometric care and have an interest in community-based practice in an urban locale. This program provides the opportunity for the resident to render continuity of care for patients with a diverse range of eye and vision disorders. Individuals who complete the program will be prepared to develop and operate a full-scope optometric service in an inner city environment, and have the ability to assume a faculty position at an optometric educational institution.

Category: Primary Care Optometry (Emphasis: Ocular Disease and Community Health Optometry)

**Low Vision Rehabilitation Residency at SUNY**

Supervisor: R. Markoff, OD Email: rmarkoff@sunyopt.edu
Positions available: 1

**Mission Statement**

The residency in Low Vision Rehabilitation will provide the resident with advanced and concentrated clinical and didactic experience in all aspects of Low Vision Rehabilitation. The resident will be involved in both coordination and consultation of patient care with other rehabilitation, medical, and social services. Individuals who complete the program are expected to be able to deliver a high level of clinical care, serve as teachers in optometric institutions, and serve in a leadership role in optometric and service agencies and organizations involved in low vision care.

Category: Vision Rehabilitation (Emphasis: Low Vision Rehabilitation)

**Ocular Disease Residency at Fromer Eye Centers**

Supervisors: M. Su, OD & J. Nguyen, OD
Emails: msu@fromereye.com jnguyen@fromereye.com
Positions available: 2

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Residency in Ocular Disease at Fromer Eye Centers is to offer qualified optometrists advanced clinical training and education in the diagnosis and treatment of ocular disease in a private practice environment. The program will prepare the resident to work confidently and efficiently as part of a dynamic team of professionals including ophthalmologists, optometrists, ophthalmic technicians, opticians and administrative personnel to provide high level diagnosis and independent or co-management of ocular diseases in private or institutional settings, engage in scholarly activities, and function as an optometric educator in this field.

Category: Ocular Disease (Emphasis: Glaucoma and Retina)

**Ocular Disease Residency at SUNY**

Supervisor: S. Bass, OD Email: sbass@sunyopt.edu
Positions available: 4

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Residency in Ocular Disease, sponsored by the State University of New York, College of Optometry, is to offer qualified optometrists advanced training, education and research opportunities in the diagnosis and treatment of ocular disease and to prepare the resident to become a clinical and didactic educator. The program has four parts: 1) a patient care component that ensures sufficient numbers of encounters and diversity of conditions in a variety of clinical settings both within the College and at external sites, including a hospital setting 2) a didactic component that provides advanced knowledge in ocular disease 3) a pedagogic component that allows for the acquisition of clinical and classroom teaching skills and 4) a research/scholarly activity portion. The resident participates in patient care in other of the College’s clinical units, on a limited and elective basis. Upon completion of the program, the resident will be qualified to provide high level diagnostics and independent or co-management of ocular diseases in private or institutional settings, engage in scholarly activities, and function as an optometric educator in this field.

Category: Ocular Disease (Emphasis: Glaucoma and Retina)

**Ocular Disease Residency at Atlantic Eye Physicians**

Supervisor: B. Hall, OD Email: brian.hall.229@gmail.com
Positions available: 2

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Residency in Ocular Disease at Atlantic Eye Physicians is to offer qualified optometrists advanced clinical training and education in the diagnosis and treatment of ocular disease in a private practice environment. The program will prepare the resident to work confidently and efficiently as part of a dynamic team of professionals including ophthalmologists, optometrists, ophthalmic technicians, opticians and administrative personnel to provide high level diagnosis and independent or co-management of ocular disease management.

Category: Ocular Disease (Emphasis: Primary Care Optometry)

**Ocular Disease Residency at Flaum Eye Institute**

Supervisors: B. Donaher, OD & J. Dalinka, OD
Emails: brooke_bonaher@urmc.rochester.edu jessica_daliska@urmc.rochester.edu
Positions available: 2

**Mission Statement**

The Flaum Eye Institute at the University of Rochester affiliated with SUNY State College of Optometry is committed to providing full-scope ocular disease training at the post-doctoral level. The strong didactic and clinical components of this program build on principles of undergraduate learning to provide a challenging and rewarding residency. Upon the completion of our program, residents will be prepared to excel at providing the highest level of optometric care in hospitals, private practices and educational institutions.

Category: Ocular Disease (Emphasis: Primary Care Optometry)

**Primary Eye Care Optometry Residency at SUNY**

Supervisor: S. Schuettlenberg, OD Email: schuettlenberg@sunyopt.edu
Positions available: 2

**Mission Statement**

The SUNY Primary Eye Care Residency provides the highly qualified optometrist with the opportunity to advance in all aspects of Primary Eye Care rendered to a diverse patient population. Opportunities are provided to diagnose, treat and manage a wide variety of visual system problems, including ocular diseases, and ocular manifestations of systemic diseases. This residency program provides:

* A broad based patient population, with sufficient numbers of encounters to supply a wide variety of conditions.

* A pedagogic component that allows for the acquisition of clinical and classroom teaching skills.

* Scholarly activities and didactic components that allow the resident to increase his/her knowledge base, along with contributing to the literature.

Category: Primary Care Optometry (Emphasis: Ocular Disease)
Vision Rehabilitation (Emphasis: Brain Injury Rehabilitation)

**Position available:** 1

**Residency at Womack Army Medical Center**

**Residency:** Vision Rehabilitation (Emphasis: Brain Injury Rehabilitation)

**Supervisor:** J. Portello, OD

**Email:** jportello@sunyopt.edu

**Mission Statement:**

The Residency in Vision Rehabilitation (Brain Injury Emphasis) provides advanced clinical training in the diagnosis, treatment and management of patients with acquired brain injury (ABI) that result from trauma, cerebral vascular accident, tumor, aneurysm, and post-surgical complications. The program provides the graduate completing the residency program with:

- An interdisciplinary approach that is core to managing patients with acquired brain injury (ABI) and includes medical, social, and rehabilitative services.
- An advanced and concentrated didactic component in ABI-related primary eye care and vision rehabilitation.
- The knowledge base to assume an active role within organized optometry and provide primary eye care and vision rehabilitation for patients with ABI in a variety of clinical settings including: private, hospital, university clinical, and community-based setting.

**Category:** Vision Rehabilitation (Emphasis: Brain Injury Rehabilitation)

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**Vision Therapy & Rehabilitation Residency at Eye Care Associates**

**Supervisor:** R. Schulman, OD

**Email:** drandyshuchman@gmail.com

**Position available:** 2

**Mission Statement:**

The mission of EyeCare Associates’ residency in Vision Therapy and Rehabilitation is to expand awareness, accessibility and advanced competence in the areas of vision therapy and rehabilitation in a private practice setting. The program provides proficiency in the areas of behavioral and pediatric optometric care; vision enhancement and sports vision; with patient encounters including contact lens and ocular disease through a residency program.

**Category:** Vision Therapy and Rehabilitation Residency (Vision Therapy and Rehabilitation, Brain Injury Rehabilitation)

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**Comprehensive Vision Therapy and Rehabilitation Residency Program at University of California, Berkeley**

**Supervisor:** J. Portello, OD

**Email:** jportello@sunyopt.edu

**Position available:** 2

**Mission Statement:**

The University of California, Berkeley, Comprehensive Vision Therapy and Rehabilitation Residency Program is structured to accomodate the diversity of patients who present for evaluation and management of vision therapy and rehabilitation issues. The program will provide the graduate completing the residency program with:

- Advanced clinical training in the areas of vision therapy and rehabilitation.
- The knowledge base to assume an active role within organized optometry and provide primary eye care and vision rehabilitation for patients with ABI in a variety of clinical settings including: private, hospital, university clinical, and community-based setting.

**Category:** Vision Therapy and Rehabilitation (Emphasis: Brain Injury Rehabilitation)

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**Combined Optometry Residency Program at University College London**

**Supervisor:** J. Portello, OD

**Email:** jportello@sunyopt.edu

**Position available:** 2

**Mission Statement:**

The combined Graduate/Residency program, at the State University of New York, College of Optometry, provides an individual with the opportunity to obtain advanced clinical competency in an area of optometry care through a residency program, coupled with a graduate degree (MS or PhD) that complements the clinical experience. Translational research and the direct clinical application will occur while developing and maintaining advanced clinical competencies. Completion of Combined Program and benefits are determined in conjunction with Graduate Programs guidelines.

**Category:** Complements Graduate Research

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**http://www.sunyopt.edu/residency**