ACHIEVE YOUR DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY DEGREE (OD)

The eyes have it!

The University of Waterloo Doctor of Optometry program is dedicated to providing excellence in patient care and is a leader in clinical education and research. We go beyond lenses and teach all aspects of eye care, including preventative, diagnostic, therapeutic, and rehabilitation vision services.

The scope of optometric practice is expanding in areas such as advanced diagnostics and pharmaceutical therapeutic. AAD changing demographics and the high costs associated with vision loss, and the demand for highly trained optometrists has never been greater.

With a Doctor of Optometry degree from Waterloo, you’ll have the skills and knowledge to enjoy a successful optometric career. As a graduate, you’ll have the opportunity to join or buy an existing practice, or start your own. Our alumni have gone on to distinguished careers in health care, industry, and academia.

uwaterloo.ca/optometry

THE WATERLOO OPTOMETRY ADVANTAGE

CLINICAL TRAINING
Get hands-on training and exposure to different patient populations, allowing you to apply your classroom and lab learning, and gain insight into many aspects of optometric practice.

STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES
Access unique facilities and the latest technology in our clinics that features ocular disease and acute care, contact lens, low vision, pediatrics, and sports vision clinics.

EVIDENCE-BASED TEACHING
Learn biomedical, visual, and clinical sciences from teachers who bring current and new knowledge into the classroom and clinic. Graduate knowing you’ve been trained to provide patient care based on evidence and best practices.

TOP TALENT
Canada’s most innovative university attracts award-winning instructors and researchers, along with some of the best and brightest students from across the country.

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Canada’s most innovative university attracts award-winning instructors and researchers, along with some of the best and brightest students from across the country.
APPLICATION PROCESS
Seeing eye to eye

The School of Optometry and Vision Science accepts applications from university undergraduate science students in as few as 3 years into their degree program.

APPLICATION DEADLINES
Early July to mid-September
Applications will be available for September 2019 admission at uwaterloo.ca/optometry/apply.

August 31, 2018
Deadline by which the Optometry Admission Test (OAT) must be written for applications for September 2019 admission.

COMPUTER-BASED ASSESSMENT FOR SAMPLE PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS (CASPer)
CASPer is a computer-based test which assesses non-cognitive skills and interpersonal characteristics that are believed to be important for successful students and graduates of our program. CASPer is a requirement for all Optometry applicants. You can apply online at takeCASPer.com or get more information at uwaterloo.ca/optometry/casper.

EARNING YOUR DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY DEGREE

WATERLOO SCIENCE

Apply to a Waterloo Science program of your choice.

COMPLETE OD ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Complete the OAT with a minimum score of 300 for all sections.

Complete CASPer — there may be a choice of several dates.

Interview invitations sent by email.

SCHOOL OF OPTOMETRY AND VISION SCIENCE

Apply to the School of Optometry and Vision Science.

UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE

UWaterloo Science

Complete the OAT with a minimum score of 300 for all sections.

Complete CASPer — there may be a choice of several dates.

Interview invitations sent by email.

OFFICE OF OPTOMETRY DEGREE

Canada’s Only Degrees Beyond

100% of optometry graduates are employed within 6 months of graduating

Canada’s Only

Earn 2 Degrees

Use a Waterloo Science program as a pathway to Optometry and graduate with 2 degrees: BSc (Honours Science) and OD

1800+ HOURS

1,800+ hours of supervised direct patient care

99% OF STUDENTS GRADUATE

99% of students graduate within 6 months of graduating

DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY (OD) PROGRAM

A Doctor of Optometry degree (OD) prepares you to become a registered optometrist. You must complete a specific set of university courses to qualify for admission into the program. This requires you to have been enrolled in a university Bachelor of Science (BSc) program for at least one academic year (minimum of 3 years with a full course load) or 2 years with 30 credits per year. Our OD program is a 4-year professional program.