

OPTICIANRY (OPTC)

About the Program

In this two-year diploma program, you will acquire the specialized knowledge and skills to safely and competently dispense subnormal vision devices, contact lenses and eyeglasses. In the theory classes, you will learn the basic science of sight, optics and eye refraction and in the laboratory, classes will develop practical skills required to fit and dispense eyeglasses and contact lenses. Program graduates are qualified to register for the entry-to-practice examinations offered by the National Alliance of Canadian Optician Regulators (NACOR) (<http://nacor.ca/>).

Part-time option is available > (<http://www.senecapolytechnic.ca/ce/community/health-care/opticianry-diploma.html>)

Credential Awarded

Ontario College Diploma

Duration

4 Semesters (2 Years)

Starts

September

Program and Course Delivery

This program is offered in Seneca's hybrid delivery format with some courses available in Seneca's flexible delivery format. Some coursework is online and some must be completed in person. Students will need to come on campus to complete in-person learning requirements. For courses offered in the flexible delivery format, professors use innovative learning spaces and technology to teach students in a classroom or lab and broadcast in real time to students attending remotely. In flexible courses, students have the choice of coming on campus or learning online.

Work Experience

Mandatory Work Term

A mandatory program requirement in a formal work environment. The work term(s) is similar in length to an academic semester and typically involves full-time work hours that may be paid or unpaid. Students must be in good standing and meet all identified requirements prior to participating in the work experience. The successful completion of the work term(s) is required for graduation. Eligibility for participation does not guarantee that a work position will be secured. Additional fees are required for the mandatory work term regardless of success in securing a work position.

Work-Integrated Learning Model

Year	September	January	May
Year 1	Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3
Year 2	Work Term 1	Semester 4	Work Term 2

Your Career

When you graduate from this program, these are the types of career options you can explore:

- Retail optical dispensaries
- Contact lens clinics

- Medical clinics
- Health care delivery team

Professional Certification

As a student of this program, you are required to complete an Emergency First Aid/Heartsaver CPR course from Seneca (<https://www.senecapolytechnic.ca/ce/classes/CPR912.html>), St. John Ambulance, Canadian Red Cross or equivalent. Certifications cannot expire during the calendar year of graduation. It is your responsibility to provide proof of certification prior to graduation.

Seneca's Opticianry program is recognized by the College of Opticians of Ontario (<http://www.coptont.org/HOME/>). To practice in Ontario as a Registered Optician, you must pass the national registration examination, among other requirements. You can find more information on how to become an optician at the Opticians Council of Canada (<https://becomeanoptician.com/>).

Note for International students

To work in the Canadian health care industry, you must take a medical examination while applying for your work permit. More information is available on the Government of Canada website (<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/medical-police/medical-exams/requirements-temporary-residents.html>).

Program of Study

Course Code	Course Name	Weekly Hours
Semester 1		
COM101 or COM111	Communicating Across Contexts Communicating Across Contexts (Enriched)	3
COM470	Interpersonal Communication	3
OPT100	Introduction to Optics	3
OPT104	Anatomy and Physiology of the Eye	3
OPT105	Eyeglass Dispensing Lab - Fittings and Measurements	3
OPT106	Eyeglass Dispensing Lab - Lens Verification	3
OPT107	Eyeglass Dispensing Theory I	3
Semester 2		
OPT201	Refraction Theory I	3
OPT203	Refraction Lab I	2
OPT204	Eyeglass Fabrication Lab I	2
OPT205	Ocular Patho-Physiology	3
OPT206	Eyeglass Dispensing Lab II	3
OPT207	Eyeglass Dispensing Theory II	3
OPT208	Professional Practice and Optical Business	3
Semester 3		
OPT302	Advanced Eyeglass Dispensing Lab	2
OPT303	Contact Lens Dispensing Theory I	3
OPT304	Contact Lens Lab I	3
OPT305	Eyeglass Fabrication Lab II	2
OPT306	Advanced Eyeglass Dispensing Theory	3
OPT309	Refraction Theory II	3

OPT310	Refraction Lab II	2
WTP100	Work Term Preparation	1
Work-Integrated Learning Term 1		
OPT551	Opticianry, Work Term	30
Semester 4		
OPT401	Contact Lens Dispensing Theory II	3
OPT402	Contact Lens Lab II	3
OPT404	Contact Lens Continuous Care Theory	3
OPT405	Advanced Contact Lens Lab - Ocular Assessment	2
OPT406	Binocular Vision and Low Vision	3
plus: General Education Course (2)		6
Work-Integrated Learning Term 2		
OPT552	Opticianry, Work Term II	30

Additional

CPR Heart Saver Certification and First Aid Emergency Certification are required to graduate from this program.

Program Learning Outcomes

This Seneca program has been validated by the Credential Validation Service as an Ontario College Credential as required by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

As a graduate, you will be prepared to reliably demonstrate the ability to:

- Integrate specialized knowledge of ophthalmic dispensing from the physical sciences, health sciences and business field to meet the eyewear needs of clients from all age groups.
- Utilize the problem-solving approach while fitting and dispensing spectacles, contact lenses and sub-normal vision aids.
- Practice at an independent level within the eye care team in accordance with the Ophthalmic Dispensing Act and Regulations and the Board of Ophthalmic Dispensers Policy Guidelines.
- Utilize knowledge of communication skills while interacting with clients.
- To understand the principles of small business management.

Admission Requirements

- Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD), or equivalent, or a mature applicant (<https://www.senecapolytechnic.ca/registrar/canadian-applicants/admission-requirements/mature-applicants.html>)

- English: Grade 12 C or U, or equivalent course
- Mathematics: Grade 12 C or U, or equivalent course
- Science: Grade 12 C or U chemistry or physics, or Grade 11 C or U biology, or an equivalent course

Canadian citizens and permanent residents may satisfy the English and/or mathematics requirements for this program through successful Seneca pre-admission testing. (<https://www.senecapolytechnic.ca/registrar/canadian-applicants/admission-requirements/mature-applicants.html>)

Recommended upgrading for applicants who do not meet academic subject requirements (<https://www.senecapolytechnic.ca/registrar/canadian-applicants/admission-requirements/upgrading-options.html>).

Additional Information

All applicants to the College of Opticians of Ontario applying for registration with the college are required to undergo a Police Vulnerable Sector Check. You can find detailed information on this requirement on the College of Opticians of Ontario website (<https://collegeofopticians.ca/applicants/registration-policies/>).

International Student Information

International admissions requirements vary by program and in addition to English requirements (<https://www.senecapolytechnic.ca/international/apply/how-to-apply/admission-requirements/english-requirements.html>), programs may require credits in mathematics, biology, and chemistry at a level equivalent to Ontario's curriculum, or a postsecondary degree or diploma, equivalent to an Ontario university or college. Program-specific pre-requisite courses and credentials are listed with the admission requirements on each program page. To review the academic requirements please visit: Academic Requirements - Seneca, Toronto, Canada ([senecapolytechnic.ca](https://www.senecapolytechnic.ca/international/apply/how-to-apply/admission-requirements/academic-requirements.html)) (<https://www.senecapolytechnic.ca/international/apply/how-to-apply/admission-requirements/academic-requirements.html>).

Pathways

As a leader in academic pathways, we offer a range of options that will allow you to take your credential further in another Seneca program or a program at a partner institution.

To learn more about your eligibility, visit the Academic Pathways (<https://www.senecapolytechnic.ca/pathways.html>) web page.