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 19 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
Position 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 anterior segment and 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 didactic 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, conduct related scholarly activities, and function as an optometric educator in this field.

Family Practice/Ocular Disease Residency at East NY Diagnostic & Treatment Center and SUNY
Supervisor: L. Haskes, OD  Email: lhaskes@sunyopt.edu
Position available: 1
Mission Statement
The residency in urban Family Practice and 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.

Low Vision Rehabilitation Residency at SUNY
Supervisor: R. Marinoff, OD  Email: marinoff@sunyopt.edu
Position 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.

Ocular Disease Residency at SUNY
Supervisor: D. Libassi, OD  Email: dlibassi@sunyopt.edu
Position available: 1
Mission Statement
The mission of the Residency in Ocular Disease at SUNY is to offer qualified optometrists advanced clinical training and education in the diagnosis and treatment of ocular disease in a dynamic 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, opthalmics and administrative personnel.

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 at 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 assures 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 diagnoses 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.

Ocular Disease Residency at Atlantic Eye Physicians
Supervisor: B. Hall, OD  Email: brian.hall.od@gmail.com
Position available: 1
Mission Statement
The residency at Atlantic Eye Physicians offers outstanding clinical training and professional development in a private practice environment. Our residents enjoy the abundant resources available in a large full scope specialty practice and will receive advanced training in comprehensive eye care, emergency eye care, cornea, cataract, glaucoma, ocularplastick, retinal and neuro-ophthalmic disease. The faculty offer expertise in all areas of specialization and are available to the residents for instruction and consultation. The resident will complete the program prepared to confidently provide the highest level of eye care.

Primary Eye Care Residency at SUNY
Supervisor: S. Schuettenberg, OD  Email: sschuettenberg@sunyopt.edu Positions available: 2
Mission Statement
The Primary Eye Care Residency at the State University of New York, College of Optometry, 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. The 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 the resident completes the program, they will be qualified to provide a high level of diagnosis and management of a wide variety of visual disorders/ocular diseases, including co-management with appropriate physician referrals in both a private or institutional setting. In addition, the resident will be able to provide advanced care in an institutional and/or academic setting, as well as participate in and pursue clinical teaching and lecturing.

http://www.sunyopt.edu/education/academics/residency_programs
Ocular Disease/Primary Care Residency at Womack Army Medical Center

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the VA Womack Army Medical Center (WAMC) Vision Rehabilitation is to provide primary eye care and vision rehabilitation for patients with acquired brain injury (ABI) that result from trauma, cerebral vascular accident, tumor, aneurysm, and post-surgical complications. This program provides the resident with the skills and knowledge necessary to 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.

**Supervisor:** J. Portello, OD  
**Email:** drrandyschulman@gmail.com

**Position available:** 1

**Mission Statement**

To expand awareness, accessibility and advanced competence in the areas of vision therapy and rehabilitation in a private practice setting. To offer 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.

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

**Supervisor:** Randy Schulman, OD  
**Email:** drandyschulman@gmail.com

**Position available:** 1

**Mission Statement**

To provide advanced training in the diagnosis, treatment and vision rehabilitation of patients with acquired brain injury (ABI) that result from trauma, cerebral vascular accident, tumor, aneurysm, and post-surgical complications. This program provides the resident with the skills and knowledge necessary to 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.

**Vision Therapy (Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation) Residency at SUNY**

**Supervisor:** A. Cohen, OD  
**Email:** acohen@sunyopt.edu

**Position available:** 1

**Mission Statement**

The residency in vision therapy and rehabilitation seeks to attract the best qualified candidates and provide them with advanced didactic knowledge and a concentrated clinical experience in optometric vision therapy. Individuals who complete the program are expected to be able to deliver a high level of clinical care in vision therapy, serve as teachers in optometric institutions, and enhance the profession of optometry as experts and leaders in the areas of vision therapy and binocular vision.

**Combined Optometry Residency & Graduate Degree (MS or PhD) in Vision Science at SUNY**

**Supervisor:** J. Portello, OD  
**Email:** joetello@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 optometric care through a residency program, coupled with a graduate degree (masters 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).