

JOB DESCRIPTION

Also known as Doctor of Optometry or ODs, Optometrists are the main vision care specialists. Not to be confused with Ophthalmologists who are medical doctors specializing similarly but can perform eye surgery, Optometrists can diagnose eye disorders but not licensed to perform medical treatment beyond correcting visual problems. They gauge people's visual acuity to diagnose refractive eye disorders, such as nearsightedness and farsightedness. While most Optometrists work in a general primary care practice, some optometrists specialize in a particular field, such as geriatrics, pediatrics, or vision therapy while others specialize in occupational vision to protect workers or sportsmen's eyes from work strain or injury.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Conduct test to determine if a patient is far sighted or nearsighted and prescribe corrective eyeglasses or contact lenses,
- Conduct test to determine depth and color perception, ability to focus and coordinate the eyes.
- Test for glaucoma and other eye diseases and diagnose conditions caused by systemic diseases such as diabetes and high blood pressure, referring patients to an Ophthalmologist as needed.
- Prescribe corrective eyeglasses and contact lenses or recommend other treatment options like low-vision rehabilitation or vision therapy in helping blind people.
- Provide preoperative and postoperative care to cataract patients, as well as to patients who have had corrective laser surgery.
- Encourage preventative measures by promoting correct reading habits, nutrition and hygiene

QUALIFICATIONS

- Doctor of Optometry (OD) from an accredited optometry school
- Residency in primary care or ocular disease or a minimum of 2 years of clinical experience in a high-volume medical optometry environment required.
- Licensed to practice Optometry in the State of TN required
- Must pass the state's licensing and the National Board of Examiners in Optometry

SPECIAL SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE

- Must have thorough skill and knowledge in the use of diagnostic devices
- Must have excellent communication skills
- Must have excellent interpersonal and people management skills