



**Western  
University**  
OF HEALTH SCIENCES

## College of Optometry

# Class of 2017 Outcomes

## Summary of Applicants and Number Matriculated

Since its inaugural entering Class, the College has seen a robust applicant pool with high ratios of applicants per matriculates. The information shown below summarizes the number of applicants and the matriculates from past admissions cycles.

<b>Class Year Anticipated Graduation (Fall of Matriculation)</b>	<b>Number of Applicants</b>	<b>Number Matriculated</b>	<b>Ratio of Applicants per Matriculate</b>
2013 (2009 matriculation)	380	78	4.9:1
2014 (2010 matriculation)	697	86	8.1:1
2015 (2011 matriculation)	794	86	9.2:1
2016 (2012 matriculation)	812	86	9.4:1
2017 (2013 matriculation)	832	91	9.1:1
2018 (2014 matriculation)	837	68	12.3:1
2019 (2015 matriculation)	856	86	10.1:1
2020 (2016 matriculation)	756	88	8.5:1
2021 (2017 matriculation)	705	77	9:01

## Attrition and Graduation

<b>Year Initially Matriculated</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
Graduated in 4 years*	91%	84%	87%
Graduated in 5 or more years	92%	90%	88%
Graduated at any time	93%	90%	88%
Attrition for Academic Reasons	2%	3%	3%
Attrition for Other Reasons	5%	7%	2%
Completed all curricular requirements but not met other graduation requirements	0%	0%	0%
Still enrolled or on a leave of absence	0%	0%	7%

*\*includes students who completed within the calendar year.*

## Clinical Education

Early entry into patient care and ongoing, diverse patient care experiences are hallmarks of the WesternU education. Clinical education begins during the first semester of the first year. Students participate in clerkship rotations from first through second year, advancing into greater involvement and more advanced levels of care. Every third year student has exposure to not only a comprehensive eye examinations but will also care for patients with ocular diseases, provide complicated contact lens fittings, and care for patients in pediatrics, and geriatrics. The third year students also care for all aspects of rehabilitative services such as low vision, vision therapy, and neuro-rehabilitation. During the fourth year, the student externs are off campus at a variety of external rotation sites including affiliated private practices, co-management and referral centers, and Veteran Affairs facilities.

Average numbers of patient encounters for each aspect of the curriculum are provided in the table below:

<b>Average number of patient encounters per student (OD 2017)</b>	
First year: screenings	36
First year: clerkships	60
Second year: clerkships	137
Third year	146
Fourth year	1719
<b>Across all four years combined</b>	<b>2098</b>

# Licensing Exam Performance

The college values a student's success and as such is continually improving our services. Based on our student feedback the College has implemented, and further enhanced our student support services as follows:

- Optometry Review Course integrated within the curriculum
- On-campus KMK NBEO (Part I) review sessions with access to books and on-line materials
- Mock examinations supporting student growth and development
- Personalized assessments to identify areas for improvement
- Dedicated space for Mock Part III exam preparation as well as open access to pre-clinical lab facilities

There are no barriers to a student's success. Our curriculum provides students with the material needed to pass boards. It is a student's hard work, preparation, study habits, work ethic, and utilization of all resources that contributes to their overall success on national board exams. We capture students' success on the licensure exams in a few ways for several reasons. (See tables below)

Measurement Description	Who is included	Why
Pass NBEO by On-time completion	Students in each graduating cohort who have passed all three parts by on-time completion as defined by the University as completing all requirements of the program within 4 years, 6 months of the matriculation date.	This gives students the opportunity to complete all degree requirements as well as licensure requirements within the set time frame.
NBEO-ASCO cohort groups	Graduating students who have attempted all three parts of the exam within a specified timeframe (October 2016 – September 2017).	To capture each institution's yearly performance in a standard manner for all member schools.

## NBEO Pass Rates by On-time Completion

NBEO Parts	Number of 2017 Graduates who have taken the exam	% Pass
Part I	75	74.67%
Part II	75	92.00%
Part III	73	94.52%
All 3 Parts	73	74.34%

*\*as of On-time Completion February, 2018*

## NBEO-ASCO Pass Rates for cohort groups

<b>Number of Candidates</b>	<b>Part 1 ABS First-time PR</b>	<b>Part 2 PAM First-time PR</b>	<b>Part 3 CSE First-time PR</b>	<b>UPR</b>
76	46.05%	67.11%	68.42%	68.42%

The Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) will review a professional optometric degree program that has less than a 70% ultimate pass rate for two consecutive years on the NBEO or any professional optometric degree program that demonstrates a decrease of 20 percentage points or more from the prior year's ultimate pass rate. For more information [visit the ACOE website](#).

## Post-graduate Residency Training

Our graduates have been very competitive in seeking residency positions. Of the 78 members of the Class of 2017 who graduated on-time 11.5% (9 graduates) have been selected to a variety of residency programs across the country. The specialties range from vision rehabilitation to primary care and ocular disease. The trend has continued with graduates from the Class of 2018 successfully matching with residency programs across the country.

## Student Leadership

WesternU College of Optometry (WUCO) students have demonstrated strong leadership within the College and within the optometric professional community.

The following College clubs have been actively involved in service to the College, the University and the local community. In the case of VOSH, WesternU students have traveled to Haiti, Mexico, Fiji and Peru to render service to those in need. WesternU Optometry students have also attained high-ranking positions in several national organizations.

WUCO students have established WesternU chapters of:

- American Academy of Optometry (AAO)
- American Optometric Student Association (AOSA)
- Beta Sigma Kappa Honor Society (BSK)
- College of Optometric Vision Development (COVD)
- Fellowship of Christian Optometrists (FCO)
- Gold Key Honor Society
- Lions Club International
- National Optometric Student Association (NOSA)
- Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association (NORA)

- Optometric Extension Program (OEP)
- Optometry Private Practice Business Club. (OPPB)
- Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (VOSH)

Each year students elect Liaisons to Optometric professional organizations as listed below:

- American Academy of Optometry (AAO)
- American Optometric Student Association (AOSA)
- American Optometric Association – Contact Lens and Cornea Section (AOA-CLCS)
- American Optometric Association – Sports Vision Section (AOA-SVS)
- American Optometric Association – Vision Rehabilitation Section (AOA-VRS)
- American Public Health Association (APHA)
- Armed Forces Optometric Society (AFOS)
- Asian American Optometric Society (AAOS)
- Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO)
- Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO)
- California Optometric Association (COA)
- Inland Empire Optometric Society (IEOS)
- Los Angeles County Optometric Society (LACOS)
- National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO)
- Orange County Optometric Society (OCOS)
- Rio Hondo Optometric Society (RHOS)
- San Diego County Optometric Society (SDCOS)
- San Fernando Valley Optometric Society (SFVOS)
- San Gabriel Valley Optometric Society (SGVOS)
- South Bay Optometric Society (SBOS)

On the University level, Class officers also serve as Senators and have a voice in the University's Student Government Association.

The University also provides opportunity for service and leadership through a wide variety of inter-professional student clubs and interest groups, which now number near 100 in total.