



College of Sciences
and Mathematics

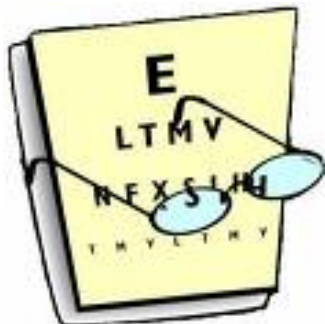
Pre - Optometry

Helpful Auburn

Contacts:

Alpha Epsilon Delta
(AED)

- www.auburn.edu/aed
- Beverley Childress,
Pre-Health Advisor
- childbb@auburn.edu
- Krysta Diehl, Pre-Health
Counselor
- knd0001@auburn.edu



Student Timeline:

Freshman Year:

- Visit Career Development Services to explore your career options
- Volunteer with professionals in your fields of interest
- Become an associate member of AED and participate in the volunteer activities

Sophomore Year:

- Decide on your major
- Continue involvement with AED and work on becoming a national member
- Continue getting shadowing experience
- Make sure you are on track with your class requirements for optometry school
- Get involved with volunteer activities in the community and on campus
- Sign up for mock interviews in April
- Take practice OATs offered each semester

Junior Year:

- Participate in the PPAC process, which begins in January
- Stay involved with AED
- Take advantage of mock interviews in April
- Continue shadowing optometrists in Auburn or your home town
- Prepare for the OAT, either through a test review program or on your own
- Take multiple practice OATs during spring semester of junior year
- Take the OAT by the end of June after your junior year
- Apply to your schools of interest the summer after your junior year

Senior Year:

- Complete all secondary applications
- Grades still matter so keep studying
- Interview
- Graduate

Helpful Websites:

- American Optometric Association <http://www.aoa.org/>
- Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry www.opted.org
- Explorehealthcareers.org

Tips from Students:

- Keep a log of all your volunteer work. Include date, number of hours, contact information, and what you learned.
- No one can tell you to change majors. If you have a 3.0 GPA or lower or did not make above a 24 on your ACT, you may want to consider the number of classes and the amount of time needed to raise your GPA to a competitive level.
- Don't take the real OAT until your practice scores are within the 300-340 range. Be prepared for your real OAT score to be a little lower than what you have been averaging on practice tests.
- Don't get discouraged with school or with the application process. It can be tough at times, but there are many resources in the COSAM Dean's office to help you.