Ophthalmic Assistant Program

Begin your career in vision healthcare as an ophthalmic assistant specializing in the anatomy, function, and diseases of the eye. Ophthalmic assistants work directly with patients, documenting medical histories and performing a number of ophthalmic-specific functions.



This 50-hour program prepares the student for entry level positions in one of the fastest growing healthcare fields. With the increase in laser surgery and the overall technological advances in eye care, the need for Ophthalmic Assistants is expected to grow much faster than the average for all occupations.

Students learn to work with ophthalmologists, administering routine eye exams and providing patient education. Ophthalmic assistants typically aid in a variety of tasks including:

- Administering diagnostic tests
- Measuring and recording vision
- Testing eye muscle function.
- Providing contact lens education
- Administering eye medications
- Maintaining optical instruments
- Pre- and post-operative exams for cataract surgery
- Visual field exams for glaucoma/neurological patients
- Office tasks including booking appointments, answering phones, and keeping records

Certifications

Once employed in the field of ophthalmology and meeting certain work requirements, students will be eligible to sit for the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) Ophthalmic Medical Assisting exam under the sponsorship of their employer. Successful completion of this exam serves as a prerequisite for the written certifying examination for Ophthalmic Medical Assistants offered by the Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO), which leads to national certification.

The Ophthalmic Assistant program is offered at Great Oaks by Condensed Curriculum International (CCI). Since 1993, CCI has supported schools in communities nationwide with educational programs focused on healthcare and other in-demand disciplines.

The next class begins soon!

Tuition: \$1,119

Scarlet Oaks Career Campus - Sharonville

Call **513.771.8881** for information session dates and class schedules.



Ophthalmic Assistant Program

You will learn about:

- Medical terminology, anatomy and physiology, pharmacology, and microbiology of the eye
- Taking patients' medical histories and ethics
- Teaching patients about procedures
- Obtaining consents and insurance information
- Preliminary examinations
- Ophthalmic equipment
- Facts about glasses and contact lenses
- Visual fields, ocular injuries, common eye/retinal disorders, and eye disease
- Asepsis technique and minor office surgery
- Topical prescriptions written for the eye
- Laser in ophthalmology
- Computerized corneal tonometry and refractive surgery
- Maintaining surgical and other supplies
- Maintaining, sterilizing, and setting up instruments for surgery
- Assisting with surgery and patient monitoring
- Applying medications and eye dressings

Program requirements

- BCI and FBI background check*
- WorkKeys® testing*
- High school diploma or high school equivalency (HSE)





Roadmap to becoming a Certified Ophthalmic Assistant

- Students must have high school diploma or equivalency.
- Complete the Great Oaks 50-hour Ophthalmic Assistant course.
- Take the AAO Ophthalmic Medical Assistant Exam. Successful completion of this exam serves as a prerequisite for the written certifying examination.
- Complete 1000 hours of on-the-job training under the supervision of an Ophthalmologist.
- Submit application to IJCAHPO to take written certifying national Ophthalmic Medical Assistant exam (\$300).
- Register for exam within 90 days.
- Take test to become Certified Ophthalmic Medical Assistant.

Call now to learn more and register!



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^{*} May be additional cost