



STEM Careers

Optometrist

Job Description: Diagnose, manage, and treat conditions and diseases of the human eye and visual system. Examine eyes and visual system, diagnose problems or impairments, prescribe corrective lenses, and provide treatment. May prescribe drugs to treat specific eye conditions.

What does an Optometrist do?

- Examine eyes using observation, instruments, and pharmaceutical agents, to determine visual acuity and perception, focus, coordination, or diseases and abnormalities that might be present
- Prescribe, supply, fit and adjust eyeglasses, contact lenses, and other visual aides
- Prescribe medications to treat eye conditions or diseases
- Educate and counsel patients on contact lens care, visual hygiene, lighting arrangements, and safety factors
- Remove foreign bodies from the eye
- Provide patients undergoing eye surgeries with pre- and post-operative care
- Prescribe therapeutic procedures to correct or conserve vision
- Provide vision therapy and low-vision rehabilitation

Your Interests:

- Are you interested in eye care?
- Do you like helping others?
- Do you communicate well with others?
- Do you like problem solving?

Outlook:

Average Salary - \$59.76 hourly, \$124,300 annually
Projected Job Openings - 1,700 in the next 10 years

Education/Program of Study:

- Positions require a doctorate.
- Degree paths include biology, optometry, and related fields.

Sources:

<https://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/29-1041.00>