

PRE-OPTOMETRY PLANNING GUIDE (CORE 34)

Pre-Optometry is a track made up of courses required for entry into a Doctor of Optometry program. Students complete these requirements alongside the bachelor's degree of their choice. The University of Kansas does not have an optometry program, but a Pre-Health Academic Advisor can help you prepare for the program of your choice. The courses below are commonly required for admission, but each program is different – it's important to check admission requirements for the schools to which you are applying.

More information can be found by visiting prehealth.ku.edu.

COMMON REQUIREMENTS

*Courses marked with an asterisk have pre-requisites not already listed below. Please see a Pre-Health Academic Advisor for guidance.

- Molecular & Cellular Biology
 - Options at KU: BIOL 150*
 - Core 34 NPS
- Organismal Biology
 - Options at KU: BIOL 152
 - Core 34 NPS
- Biology Lab for STEM
 - Options at KU: BIOL 154
 - Core 34 NPS
- Microbiology with lab
 - Options at KU: BIOL 400 & 402
- Biochemistry
 - Options at KU: BIOL 600
- General Chemistry I
 - Options at KU: CHEM 130*
 - Core 34 NPS
- General Chemistry II
 - Options at KU: CHEM 135
 - Core 34 NPS
- Organic Chemistry I with lab
 - Options at KU: CHEM 330 & 331
 - Core 34 NPS
- Calculus I
 - Options at KU: MATH 115* or MATH 125*
 - Core 34 MTS
- College Physics I
 - Options at KU: PHSX 114*
 - Core 34 NPS
- College Physics II
 - Options at KU: PHSX 115
 - Core 34 NPS
- Psychology
 - Options at KU: PSYC 104
 - Core 34 SBS

- Statistics
 - Options at KU: PSYC 210 or MATH 365*
 - Core 34 MTS
- Written Communication I
 - Options at KU: ENGL 101
 - Core 34 ENG
- Written Communication II
 - Options at KU: ENGL 102
 - Core 34 ENG

RECOMMENDED

- Human Anatomy with lab
 - Options at KU: BIOL 240 & BIOL 241
 - Core 34 NPS
- Human or Mammalian Physiology with lab
 - BIOL 246 & BIOL 247 or BIOL 546 & BIOL 547
 - Notes: BIOL 267 & BIOL 247 fulfill Core 34 NPS requirements.
- Child Development
 - Options at KU: ABSC 160 or PSYC 333
 - Core 34 SBS

THINGS TO CONSIDER

- The closest program is at the University of Missouri in St. Louis, but students apply to schools across the country.
 - Register for the Optometry Admission Test (OAT) - it's typically taken in late May, immediately after junior year.
 - Application deadlines differ by program; it's recommended that you submit your Optometry Central Application Service (OptomCAS) application in the summer between junior and senior years.
 - Schedule an appointment with the University Career Center to prepare applications, resumes, and interviews.
 - Experience with optometrists and patients is important - consider job shadowing, volunteering, or employment!
- Sample timeline for the above courses (to be taken with courses in your selected major)
- 1st Fall: CHEM 130, BIOL 150
 - 1st Spring: CHEM 135, BIOL 152, BIOL 154
 - 2nd Fall: CHEM 330 & CHEM 331, BIOL 400 & BIOL 402
 - 2nd Spring: BIOL 600, PSYC 104
 - 3rd Fall: PHSX 114, MATH 365
 - 3rd Spring: PHSX 115