

# THINKING ABOUT OPTOMETRY?

While Doctors of Optometry diagnose and treat disorders of the eye, that's only part of the story—**we see the whole patient**. As primary care providers, Doctors of Optometry are trained in general health issues and are often the first to detect diseases, from diabetes and hypertension to stroke and tumors.

And in addition to protecting their patient's most valued sense—**vision**—each and every day, optometrists make a real difference in real lives. Whether it's returning sight to an elderly man so that he can go back to work or allowing a baby girl to see the world for the first time, optometrists reveal new vistas, return lost joys, and empower greater achievement—they are about protecting your sight and so much more.



## WHY WOULD I WANT TO BECOME A DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY?

- Protect our most valued sense: VISION
- Enter an intellectually challenging and financially rewarding profession
- Help people & improve their lives!

## WHAT COULD I DO AS A DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY?

### EXAMPLES:

- Diagnose certain systemic diseases
- Provide vision therapy and low-vision rehabilitation
- Diagnose and treat ocular disease
- Provide pediatric eye care
- Provide care to military members and veterans
- Volunteer to provide eye care on mission trips
- Participate as an interprofessional health care team member

# WHAT ELSE CAN OPTOMETRY OFFER?

## CAREER SECURITY



**3.4 million Americans** (> 40 years) are either blind or visually impaired

**2.2 million Americans** (> 40 years) have glaucoma

**5.3 million Americans** (> 18 years) have diabetic eye complications

**20.5 million Americans** (> 40 years) have cataracts

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

## HIGH CAREER RANKINGS

2017 Rankings



#9 – Best Health Care Jobs

#11 – The 100 Best Jobs

#22 – Best Paying Jobs

## FINANCIALLY REWARDING

Optometry offers average net incomes ranging from

**\$140,913-\$172,356**

according to the AOA Survey of Optometric Practice.

## A DESIRABLE PROFESSION



**Unlimited** career opportunities



**Great** work/life balance

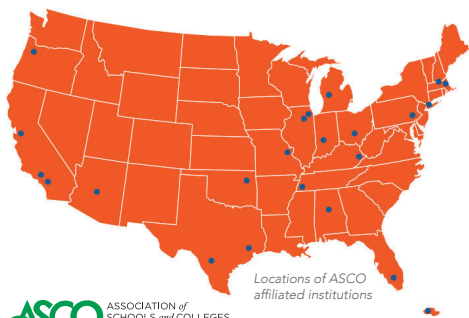


Caregivers that make a **real** difference



**Vision** is our most valued sense

## WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?



Locations of ASCO affiliated institutions

**Shadowing:** Contact your local optometrist or contact one of the schools or colleges of optometry for assistance in finding an optometrist

**ASCO:** [www.optometriceducation.org](http://www.optometriceducation.org)

- Videos, blogs, application information, social media

**OptomCAS:** [www.optomcas.org](http://www.optomcas.org)

- To apply

**AOA:** [www.aoa.org](http://www.aoa.org)

- American Optometric Association

**AAO:** [www.aaopt.org](http://www.aaopt.org)

- American Academy of Optometry

**AOSA:** [www.theaosa.org](http://www.theaosa.org)

- American Optometric Student Association

**ASCO** ASSOCIATION of SCHOOLS and COLLEGES of OPTOMETRY

 American Optometric Association

 AMERICAN ACADEMY of OPTOMETRY