

Optometry School Application Timeline

Planning and preparation are key to submitting a thorough, thoughtful, and professional application to optometry school.



Components of a Successful Application

Good Test Score and GPA



Well-written Personal Statement



Strong Letters of Recommendation



Primary Applications Open in June: Plan to submit in July

Prepare for and take the OAT/GRE

Secure Letters of Recommendation

Complete Personal Statement

Fill out Primary Applications Submit Applications Complete Secondary Applications

Interviews

Month	What you should be thinking about and planning for:
January- April	 Work on writing your Personal Statement and experience descriptions for your application. Identify and meet with your letter writers and ask for STRONG Letters of Recommendation. Continue to engage in volunteer work, leadership activities, shadowing, and research.
June	 Primary Applications open. Begin to fill out Primary Applications as soon as possible. Read the instructions carefully. Order Official Transcripts from ALL colleges and universities you have attended and have them sent to the appropriate application services. https://www.byui.edu/transcripts Complete Personal Statement and experience descriptions.
Applications. July	 Make final decisions on which optometry schools to apply to and submit Primary application. Application services verify Primary Applications and notify applicants of verification status.
July-August	 Continue working on and submitting secondary applications. Be wary of copy and paste errors. Try to get all Secondary Applications submitted within 2-3 weeks of receipt.
September- January	Prepare for and attend interviews.
January-May	 Schools may offer late interviews in an effort to fill their seats. Applicants on waitlists are notified of an admission offer. Typically, optometry schools confirm their class by the end of July in the year following application. Remember to thank those who helped you prepare for and get accepted to optometry school. If not accepted, meet with a Health Professions Advisor to help strategize for the next application cycle, or look for other career options.