



Optical Sciences Advanced Practice Contact Lenses

The Contact Lens Program is a two-year online, independent study certificate program. The Contact Lens Program is an advanced practice and, as such, the potential student must be a registered optician. In addition to the two years of theory, four levels of Practicum are required. Practicum consists of on-the-job training, similar in nature to an apprenticeship, and is necessary as part of the clinical aspect of the program. 500 hours under direct supervision are required.

Program Model / Completion Requirements

Registered Optician

Practical training at work site under direct supervision of qualified supervisor

Two years of independent study academic courses: ODP550, ODP552

500 hours of Practicum in four levels: ODP529, ODP530, ODP531, ODP532

Certification

Optical Sciences Contact Lenses Certificate

Accreditation

Graduates eligible to write National Association of Canadian Optician Regulators (NACOR)

National Optical Sciences 2 – Contact Lenses examination <http://www.nacor.ca/>

Delivery Method

Academic courses are delivered online using Blackboard e-learning system*; the student must be working in the industry to fulfill the Practicum requirements.

* Some provinces also require that students attend mandatory lectures and seminars

Grade System

Academic: Pass = 63% or higher; Fail = 62% or lower

Practicum Levels: Pass or Fail

Student Evaluation

	Mark Distribution
A. Midterm Exam	30%
B. Final Exam	40%
C. Online Lab Seminar Assessment	10%
D. WebCT Online Participation	10%
E. Online Post Assessments	10%
	100%

Registration

Students interested in participating in the Advanced Practice Contact Lenses Program must contact the designated Program administrative office/ Provincial Association (see COURSE INFO link on OAC website) for a course information package and application form or send an email to education@opticians.ca (In your email, please specify your province of residence)

Course Fees

Please contact your designated Program administrative office/ Provincial Association (see COURSE INFO link on OAC website) or email to education@opticians.ca (In your email, please specify your province of residence)

Advanced Practice Year One (ODP550)

Course Length

32 Weeks

Start and End Dates

September Intake: September 13 to April 30

Enrolment Deadline: **Applications will not be accepted after the deadline*

September Intake: August 1st

Entrance Requirements

Applicant must be a Licensed/Registered Optician. Applicant must be employed and have a qualified supervisor* willing to train.

* A qualified supervisor is a Contact Lens Optician or Optometrist who holds a valid license in the Province you are working.

Academic Component – Advanced Practice One

The academic component of the course contains a course of study governed by prescribed textbooks and online course material. Students must complete online assessments and assignments, participate in online discussions, and complete a written midterm examination and a written final examination.

Major Topics

	Time Allocation
A. Learning with LOGs	5 hrs
B. LOG 2 – Introduction to Advanced Practice	25 hrs
C. LOG 3 – Anatomy & Physiology 1	35 hrs
D. LOG 4 – Anatomy & Physiology 2	35 hrs
E. LOG 5 – Ocular Pathology 1	45 hrs
F. LOG 6 – Preliminary Assessment	55 hrs
G. LOG 7 – Biomicroscopy	40 hrs
H. LOG 8 – Ocular Pathology 2	45 hrs
I. LOG 9 - Pharmacology	45 hrs
J. Midterm and Final Exam Preparation	20 hrs
	350 hrs

Practical Component – ODP529 & ODP530

The practical component requires that the student complete Advanced Practice Practicum Levels One and Two (ODP529 & ODP530), consisting of 250 practical hours and specific practicum objectives. These requirements must be met prior to moving into Academic Component Advanced Practice Year Two – Contact Lenses (ODP552).

Advanced Practice Year Two – Contact Lenses (ODP552)

Course Length

32 Weeks

Start and End Dates

September Intake: September 13 to April 30

Enrolment Deadline: **Applications will not be accepted after the deadline*

September Intake: August 1st

Entrance Requirements

Successful completion of Advanced Practice Year One Academic (ODP550) and Advanced Practice Practicum Levels One and Two (ODP529 & ODP530). Applicant must be employed and have a qualified supervisor* willing to train.

* A qualified supervisor is a Contact Lens Optician or Optometrist who holds a valid license in the Province you are working.

Academic Component – Advanced Practice Year Two – Contact Lenses

The academic component of the course contains a course of study governed by prescribed textbooks and online course material. Students must complete online assessments and assignments, participate in online discussions, and complete a written midterm examination and a written final examination.

Major Topics

	Time Allocation
A. Learning with LOGs	5 hrs
B. LOG 2 – Pre-Fit Examination	45 hrs
C. LOG 3 – Optics & Lens Design	55 hrs
D. LOG 4 – Rigid Gas Permeable Contact Lenses	55 hrs
E. LOG 5 – Gas Permeable Problem Solving and Toric Fittings	65 hrs
F. LOG 6 – Fitting Soft Lenses	40 hrs
G. LOG 7 – Specialty Contact Lens Fitting	65 hrs
H. Midterm and Final Exam Preparation	20 hrs
	350 hrs

Practical Component – ODP531 & ODP532

The practical component requires that the student complete Advanced Practice Practicum Levels Three and Four (ODP531 & ODP532), consisting of 250 practical hours and specific practicum objectives.

**** A student is required to gain practical experience fitting soft and hard contact lenses. It is the responsibility of the student to find a suitable supervisor who is willing to train the student in the proper fitting techniques.***

A student must complete all academic and practical requirements of the two-year program prior to being issued an Optical Sciences Contact Lenses Certificate.