

Michigan College of Optometry

# RESIDENCY PROGRAMS



**TRAINING OPTOMETRIC LEADERS**

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 FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

# PROGRAMS

## Community Health and Primary Care

- ◆ Cherry Health  
Grand Rapids, MI

## Primary Care/Ocular Disease

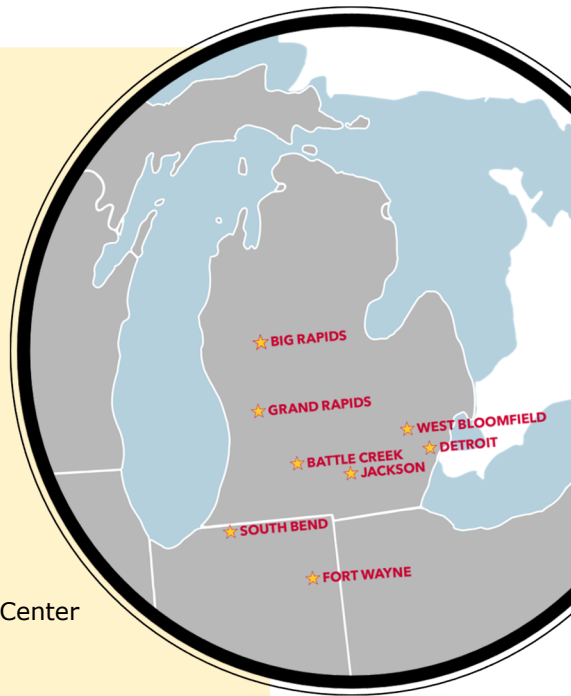
- ◆ Battle Creek VA Medical Center  
Battle Creek, MI
- ◆ Boling Vision Center  
South Bend, IN
- ◆ Henry Ford OptimEyes  
West Bloomfield, MI
- ◆ John D Dingell VA Medical Center  
Detroit, MI
- ◆ Specialty Eye Institute  
Jackson, MI
- ◆ Wyoming VA Health Care System  
Grand Rapids, MI
- ◆ VA Northern Indiana Health Care System  
Fort Wayne, IN

## Cornea and Contact Lenses

- ◆ Michigan College of Optometry  
Big Rapids, MI


## Pediatrics and Binocular Vision


- ◆ Michigan College of Optometry  
Big Rapids, MI








## INFORMATION FOR ALL PROGRAMS

 Stipends from \$31,965 to \$34,888

 Health, life and professional liability insurance

 Locations have 1-2 positions

 MCO Residency Day  
Grand Rounds Presentations

 \$500 travel allowance from MCO

**1** year in duration

Programs are accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education

### FOR PROGRAM SPECIFIC INFORMATION:

<https://ferris.edu/HTMLS/colleges/michopt/Residency-Programs/index.htm>

## IS A RESIDENCY RIGHT FOR ME?

Increase your clinical **competence and confidence** in patient care

Enhance your ability to function in a **multidisciplinary health care environment**

Expose you to **professional opportunities**; leadership roles, industry positions, providing CE, etc.

Allow you to **build relationships** within the profession

Expand your skills as an **optometric educator**

Learning in an environment with **new challenges** and the guidance of a **mentor**



## APPLICATION INFORMATION

Applicants to the Post-Doctoral Residency Training Program must:

1. O.D. degree attained from a school or college of optometry accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education.
2. Apply through the Optometry Residency Match (ORMatch) service at [natmatch.com/ormatch/index.html](http://natmatch.com/ormatch/index.html) by January 31<sup>st</sup>.
3. Submit the following documents directly to the residency supervisor
  - The MCO supplemental residency application
  - Current Curriculum Vitae
  - National Board of Examiners in Optometry exam scores
  - Optometric education transcripts
  - Three letters of recommendation from faculty closely associated with the applicant's clinical experience
  - A letter of intent that discusses the applicant's reasons for selecting the specific residency program
4. Participate in an interview to be scheduled after submission of application materials and conducted no later than the third week of February.
5. Submit the "Applicant's Ranking of Programs" to ORMatch by the deadline posted on the ORMatch webpage.

Notes to applicants:

- Residents are chosen by a residency committee based on application materials and interviews.
- Applicants are evaluated without regard to race, gender, creed, national origin or disability.
- ORMatch will notify applicants and the Director of Residencies binding matched by the March deadline

## CHERRY HEALTH

**Type:** Community Health and Primary Care

**Supervisor:** Meagan Baker, OD, FAAO  
meaganbaker@cherryhealth.com  
Http://cherryhealth.com

**Positions:** 1

**Mission:** The mission of the Residency in Community Health Optometry and Primary Care at Cherry Health is to provide advanced clinical training and competency by delivering primary comprehensive optometric care within a multi-disciplinary health care setting. There is an emphasis on integration of services and increased access to quality and affordable care for underserved and at-risk individuals in order to improve their health and wellness.

### Highlights:

- Cherry Health is an independent, non-profit federally qualified health center. The patient demographic has immense cultural, racial, social and age diversity. All patients are affected by significant socioeconomic disadvantages. Cherry Health offers primary care, women's health, pediatrics, dental, vision, behavioral health, mental health, correctional health and pharmacy services.
- Vision services provide comprehensive eye care to adults and children. Adult services include dilated eye exams, diabetic eye exams, and diagnosis and treatment of ocular disease. Pediatric services include infant eye exams, cycloplegic eye exams, and sensory motor evaluations including vision therapy.
- The optometry resident interacts with patients by providing direct care, observing specialists and precepting externs. The resident is also required to lead journal club, give lectures and write professional papers.



## BATTLE CREEK VA MEDICAL CENTER

**Type:** Ocular Disease and Primary Care

**Supervisor:** Molly McGinty-Tauren, OD FAAO

Molly.mcginty-tauren@va.gov

**Positions:** 2

**Mission:** The mission of this Veterans Administration optometry residency program is to provide post doctorate clinical experiences resulting in advanced competency in the evaluation, treatment and management of a wide variety of ocular conditions, with a special emphasis on ocular disease. Further, this program provides experience in the interdisciplinary clinical care of patients with systemic health problems. Interactions with the disciplines of laboratory medicine, internal medicine, ophthalmology, and radiology enhance the resident's knowledge of systemic disease and its many ocular manifestations.

It also serves to sharpen the management skills of the resident in dealing with specific ocular diseases. Lastly, the optometry residency program offers the opportunity for scholarly pursuits. These include student teaching, written case reports, and oral presentations.



### Highlights:

- Required case report writings and poster presentations fulfill the eligibility points set forth by The American Academy of Optometry for fellowship designation.
- Didactic instruction to accompany patient care will prepare residents for the Advanced Competency in Medical Optometry examination offered by the NBEO every June.
- Vast patient care and clinical teaching experiences coupled with the support of three full-time attending optometrists and a co-resident, make for a professionally enriching year and foster opportunities that afford professional satisfaction.



*"Completion of a residency opens so many doors and potential career paths that may be otherwise more difficult to find."* -Nate Traxler, OD

## **BOLING VISION CENTER**

**Type:** Primary Care

**Supervisor:** Kim Cooper, OD  
ocular2009@gmail.com

**Positions:** 1

**Mission:** The mission of the residency offered by Boling Vision Center is to train the entry level graduate optometrist to becoming a leader in the field of optometry. This year long morphosis will occur through didactic learning, clinical patient care and interdisciplinary patient management. Direct patient care will range from primary care to advanced ophthalmic disease. Observational care will range from minor procedures to major surgery. Emphasis will be placed upon scientific-based patient care, lifelong learning and Boling Vision Center's guiding principles of Integrity, Compassion and Excellence (ICE). Upon successful completion, the resident will have the competencies to practice to the highest degree of their licensure in primary care and ophthalmic disease. The resident will also have the necessary requirements to become a Fellow of The American Academy of Optometry.

**Highlights:**

- Friendly private practice composed of six optometrists and three ophthalmologists
- A large range of care provided including: preoperative and postoperative care, primary care, medically necessary contact lenses, and ocular disease
- Surgical observational care including: corneal topography guided LASIK, PRK, KAMRA™ inlay, cataract surgery (standard and premium), glaucoma surgery, retinal injections, and retinal laser therapy.





## HENRY FORD OPTIMEYES

**Type:** Primary Care

**Supervisor:** Brian Schmidt, OD

BSchmidt@Optimeyes.com

<https://henryford.com/optimeyes>

**Positions:** 1

**Mission:** This residency program seeks to fulfill its mission by providing clinically focused post-graduate education in a multi-disciplinary environment. Extensive interaction with attending optometrists and externs facilitates a truly unique learning experience, as well as an opportunity to interact with other members of the health care delivery system. Direct optometric patient care is combined with clinical supervision of fourth year Michigan College of Optometry externs to complete the resident's optometric clinical education. The primary goal of this program is to improve the resident's proficiency and clinical competency in the diagnosis, treatment and management of patients in the primary care setting. The residency's patient population is diverse with emphasis on ocular disease and specialty contact lens fittings. Upon completion of this program the resident will be prepared to pursue professional opportunities in academia, manage and practice in a full-scope optometric clinic or practice in a multidisciplinary medical setting.

**Highlights:**

- A diverse patient population with an emphasis on ocular disease and contact lens fittings.
- A leader of a voluntary free eye clinic through participation in the Detroit Capuchin Eye Care Clinic.
- The residency encourages scholarly activities through, clinical instructions of externs and oral presentations to peer audiences.



*"I wanted advanced training in diagnosing and managing ocular disease, working along side specialists who handle the difficult cases on a daily basis."*

-Dan VanElk, OD

## JOHN DINGELL VA MEDICAL CENTER

**Type:** Ocular Disease and Primary Care

**Supervisor:** Phillip Elston, OD or Jeanette Varanelli, OD  
Phillip.elston@va.gov  
Jeanette.varanelli@va.gov

**Positions:** 2

**Mission:** The hospital-based optometry residency at John D. Dingell VAMC Health Care System will provide post-doctorate clinical experiences resulting in advanced competency in the evaluation, treatment and management of a wide variety of ocular conditions, with a special emphasis on ocular disease. This residency will equip the resident with the necessary tools for lifelong learning, thereby enabling advanced-level competency throughout his or her professional career. The residency will provide the professional and clinical foundation for the resident's future contributions to the profession of optometry, and provides extensive experience in the interdisciplinary clinical care of patients with systemic health problems. The residency serves to sharpen the management skills of the post-graduate optometrist in dealing with specific ocular diseases. The program offers the opportunity for scholarly pursuits, including student teaching, clinical research, and oral and written presentations.



### Highlights:

- This VA primary care/ocular disease based eye clinic sees over 30,000 patient encounters per year. This patient base is diverse and challenging. Optometry and Ophthalmology coexist and work extremely well together in this clinic that has 32 exam rooms.
- Operating this clinic within the Detroit VA Medical Center hospital allows for the interdisciplinary care that this complex patient base needs and deserves. Immediate access to the entire medical health record of each patient is a tremendous advantage in the care of each patient.
- This clinic is equipped with the latest technology used to manage any complex eye issue that arises in this ocular disease based population.

## SPECIALTY EYE INSTITUTE

**Type:** Ocular Disease

**Supervisor:** Angela Cumming, OD  
acumming@specialtyeyeinstitute.com  
Specialtyeyeinstitute.com

**Positions:** 1

**Mission:** The residency program provides a superior optometric graduate with an advanced clinical and didactic experience in the diagnosis and treatment of ocular disease, as well as the assessment and management of refractive surgery patients. Upon completion of the program, individuals will be qualified to deliver the highest level of patient care, make significant contributions to education and to the profession of optometry.

**Highlights:**

- The program focuses on diagnosis and treatment of ocular disease in addition to assessment and management of refractive surgery patients.
- Opportunities exist for the resident to gain experience in a number of specialty areas while providing care to at least 2,000 patients.
- The resident provides care in various specialty clinics, such as cornea, glaucoma, cataracts, retina/vitreous and refractive surgery. Approximately four hours per week are spent on research, development and/or organization of a patient study.



*"The networking relationships formed are extremely useful especially since I now practice in a more rural area. I highly recommend pursuing a residency to anyone who wishes to perfect their clinical skills while advancing their knowledge base in a subject area they are passionate about."*  
-Sara Johnson, OD

## WYOMING VA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

**Type:** Ocular Disease

**Supervisor:** Jordan Kuipers, OD  
jordan.kuipers2@va.gov

**Positions:** 1

**Mission:** The optometric residency in ocular disease will provide post-doctoral clinical education resulting in advanced competency in medical optometry. The residency will provide the challenging cases and attending expertise needed to help develop the resident into an ocular disease specialist. An interdisciplinary approach for providing care for patient with systemic and ocular complications will be emphasized. Furthermore, the residency will promote scholarly activities through the teaching of interns, research, and oral presentations to develop the resident into a leader for the optometric profession.

**Highlights:**

- Residents are presented with a high patient volume and gain a large amount of experience diagnosing and treating complex ophthalmic conditions, and have exposure to a patient population with a high prevalence of systemic disease.
- Residents practice in a fully intergrated health care center which includes primary care, laboratory, pharmacy, radiology, mental health and many other specialty services.
- Residents are provided with the experience and opportunity to become an effective educator. The resident will clinically supervise optometry externs as well as take part in scholarly activities including presenting grand rounds to the local optometric community and weekly journal club.



## VA NORTHERN INDIANA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

**Type:** Ocular Disease

**Supervisor:** Aaron Case, OD, FAAO  
Aaron.Case@va.gov

**Positions:** 2

**Mission:** The optometry residency will provide post doctorate clinical experiences resulting in advanced competency in the evaluation, treatment and management of a wide variety of ocular conditions, with a special emphasis on ocular disease. The residency will equip the resident with the necessary tools for life-long learning, thereby enabling continued advanced level competency throughout his or her professional career. Furthermore, the residency will highlight the trainee's responsibility for future contributions to the profession of optometry.

**Highlights:**

- Clinical experience is gained through provision of comprehensive, emergency, and perioperative eye care. Operating under broad privileges, the resident orders medications, specialty consults, laboratory tests, imaging, and other testing as indicated. Residents also perform advanced diagnostic and therapeutic ophthalmic procedures including suture removal, periorbital injections, and lesion excision.
- Didactic activities include weekly conference, journal club, independent study, and other scholarly pursuits including lectures and poster presentations.
- The learning environment is enhanced by knowledgeable and enthusiastic faculty, highly trained ophthalmic technicians, state-of-the-art facilities and equipment, an extensive library (real and virtual), and the opportunity to precept 4<sup>th</sup> year optometry students.



*"Doing a residency improved my confidence in clinical decision making. I was able to see a myriad of challenging cases and discuss my treatment and management plans with doctors who were specialists in the field. I learned a tremendous amount from this experience." -Emily Aslakson, OD*

## MCO CORNEA AND CONTACT LENSES

**Type:** Cornea and Contact Lenses

**Supervisor:** Bruce Morgan, OD, FAAO  
brucemorgan@ferris.edu

**Positions:** 1

**Mission:** The optometry residency in cornea and contact lenses at the Michigan College of Optometry will provide post doctorate clinical experiences resulting in advanced competency in the evaluation, treatment and management of corneal conditions, with an emphasis in specialty contact lenses.



This residency will equip the resident with the necessary tools for life long learning, thereby enabling continued advanced level competency throughout his/her professional career. The residency will emphasize the trainee's responsibility for future contributions to the profession of optometry, particularly in the contact lens specialty area by instilling in its residents a professional and scientific attitude. Upon successful completion of this program, the resident will pursue a professional career in contact lens practice or optometric contact lens education and/or clinical research.

**Highlights:**

- Wide variety of cornea and contact lens experiences with direct mentorship from faculty dedicated to specific areas of the program (Scleral lenses, Orthokeratology, Myopia Management, Dry eye, etc.).
- Unique experience with Art Optical consulting with doctors all over the world on fitting and troubleshooting GP and specialty soft lenses.
- Flexible program designed to allow for specific interests of the Resident – ie., teaching (both didactic and clinical), scholarship/research, corneal disease, etc.

## MCO PEDIATRICS AND BINOCULAR VISION

**Type:** Pediatric and Binocular Vision

**Supervisor:** Paula McDowell, OD, FAAO  
paulamcdowell@ferris.edu

**Positions:** 1

**Mission:** The Pediatric and Binocular Vision Residency at the Michigan College of Optometry will provide post-doctoral clinical experiences resulting in advanced competency in primary and secondary pediatric care. Special emphasis will be placed on the evaluation, treatment, and management of infant and preschool patients and binocular vision disorders, with opportunities in the areas of vision therapy, vision information processing, and traumatic brain injury. Residents will be equipped with the necessary tools for life-long learning through clinical, scholarly, and didactic activities, thereby enabling continued advanced level competency throughout his or her professional career.

### Highlights:

- Since MCO is a referral center for West Michigan, the pediatric resident sees a variety of complex cases, including but not limited to: vergence and accommodative disorders, strabismus, amblyopia, traumatic brain injury, and vision processing disorders.
- In addition to MCO direct care and student precepting in the pediatric, vision therapy, medical-surgical, and primary care clinics, the resident participates in a Federally Qualified Health Center, labs and lectures, and inter-professional observations for a diversity of experience.
- The MCO pediatric resident contributes to personal and professional scholarship development through journal clubs, advanced lectures, and national presentations to prepare for advanced certification immediately following the residency, such as fellowship in the AAO and COVD.





## Alison Jenerou

OD, FCOVD, FAAO  
DIRECTOR OF RESIDENCIES

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