Michigan College of Optometry

Internal Scholarship Opportunities

- To be considered for any scholarship in which you meet the criterion for, apply from January 1 to March 1st with the general optometry scholarship application at: [http://ferris.edu/HTMLS/admission/financialaid/scholarship/Incoming/myscholarships.htm](http://ferris.edu/HTMLS/admission/financialaid/scholarship/Incoming/myscholarships.htm)
- The MCO Scholarship and Awards Committee will determine the recipients based on those from the information in your application

- **Opportunities for incoming 1st year students**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship</th>
<th>Eligibility</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Weeks-Lakin Scholarship</strong></td>
<td>Entering 1st year</td>
<td>-3.2 or higher GPA&lt;br&gt;-Financial need a consideration&lt;br&gt;-No application necessary&lt;br&gt;-Admissions Committee makes selection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Frank A. Muehlenbeck Memorial Scholarship</strong></td>
<td>Incoming First year</td>
<td>-3.0 GPA&lt;br&gt;-No application necessary&lt;br&gt;-Admissions committee decides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Michigan College of Optometry Alumni Endowment</strong></td>
<td>Incoming first year student</td>
<td>-Minimum 3.0 GPA&lt;br&gt;-No application necessary&lt;br&gt;-Admissions committee makes selection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Michigan College of Optometry Student Opportunity Scholarship</strong></td>
<td>First year student</td>
<td>-Financial need&lt;br&gt;-No application necessary&lt;br&gt;-Admissions committee makes selection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Michigan Foundation for Vision Awareness (MFVA-MCO)</strong></td>
<td>First year student</td>
<td>-3.5 or higher GPA&lt;br&gt;-High OAT score&lt;br&gt;-Resident of Michigan&lt;br&gt;-No application necessary&lt;br&gt;-Admissions Committee makes selection</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Robert E. Brand Memorial Scholarship
Eligibility:  Incoming first year student
Criteria:   -Financial need
            -Admissions Committee makes selection

Robert “Bob” Carter Scholarship
Eligibility:  First year student
Criteria:   -Financial need
            -No application necessary
            -Admissions Committee makes selection

Charles G. Peterson and Dorothy E. Peterson Memorial Scholarship
Eligibility:  First year student
Criteria:   -3.2 GPA or higher
            -Financial need
            -Preference to non-Michigan residents
            -Admissions committee makes selection

Davich Optical Chain Scholarship
Eligibility:  First year student
Criterion:  Admissions Committee makes selection

John E. Christie Memorial Scholarship
Eligibility:  Any student
Criteria:   -Preference to student of color
            -3.0 GPA
            -Admissions committee makes selection

Opportunities for 2nd year students

Dr. Henry R. Racki Optometry Scholarship Endowment Scholarship
Eligibility:  Second year
Criteria:   -Preference to students who have demonstrated interest in liberal arts and/or
            are residents of Macomb County, Michigan
            -No application necessary
            -Awards committee decides

MCO Optometry Super Bowl Travel Grant
Eligibility:  Second, third or fourth year
Criteria:   -Wins MCO Super Bowl
            -Registered to attend Optometry’s Meeting
            -No application necessary
### Opportunities for 3rd year students

**Dr. Robert VanHoven Memorial Scholarship**  
*Eligibility:* Third year  
*Criteria:* -Awards Committee decides

**Dr. Jack W Bennett Memorial Scholarship**  
*Eligibility:* Third year student  
*Criteria:* -Awards Committee makes selection

**Frederick W. Kellogg Scholarship**  
*Eligibility:* Third year student  
*Criteria:* -3.0 GPA or higher  
-Financial need  
-Awards Committee makes selection

**Midland Lions Roger Maier Scholarship**  
*Eligibility:* Third or Fourth year student  
*Criteria:* -Midland county, Michigan preference  
-Awards committee makes selection

**Dr. Joseph D. Sasaki Scholarship**  
*Eligibility:* Third year  
*Criteria:* -Awards Committee makes selection

**MCO Optometry Super Bowl Travel Grant**  
*Eligibility:* Second, third or fourth year  
*Criteria:* -Wins MCO Super Bowl  
-Registered to attend Optometry’s Meeting  
-No application necessary

### Opportunities for all students

**Dr. Paul E. Borton Scholarship**  
*Eligibility:* Full time student  
*Criteria:* -3.0 minimum GPA

**Dr. Merrill R. Murray Memorial Scholarship**  
*Eligibility:* Full time student  
*Criteria:* -3.00 GPA or higher  
-First preference given to student who attained their primary and or secondary education in Mecosta County, Michigan or Henry Country, Indiana
Opportunities for 4th year students
Awards for 4th year are selected during capstone

Beta Sigma Kappa Silver Medal Award
*Eligibility:* All students
*Criterias:* 
- Highest GPA
- Associate Dean and Dean of MCO make selection

Michigan College of Optometry Academic Recognition Award
*Eligibility:* All students
*Criterias:* 
- Highest GPA

George N. Holcomb Memorial Scholarship
*Eligibility:* Graduating student
*Criterias:* 
- Graduating optometry student who intends to pursue further education in either a graduate or residency program in preparation for a career in optometric education and/or research.
- Written proposal detailing postgraduate plans and professional goals that are consistent with the intent of the scholarship

Walter C. Betts Memorial Scholarship
*Eligibility:* 4th year, Graduation Award
*Criterias:* 
- Intends to pursue further education in either postgraduate or residency program
- Awards committee makes selection

Eschenbach Low Vision Student Award
*Eligibility:* Fourth year students
*Criterias:* 
- Interest in low vision considered
- Awards Committee makes selection

Kurt Hellthaler Memorial Scholarship
*Eligibility:* All students
*Criterias:* 
- Awards Committee makes selection

Marchon Eyewear Practice Management Award
*Eligibility:* Graduating 4th year student
*Criterias:* 
- Awards Committee makes selection

William Feinbloom Low Vision Award
*Eligibility:* Fourth year student
*Criterias:* 
- Interest in low vision considered
- Awards Committee makes selection

The Volk Optical Low Vision Award
*Eligibility:* Fourth year student
*Criterias:* 
- Interest in low vision considered
- Awards Committee makes selection
Excellence in Low Vision Achievement Award

*Eligibility:* Fourth year student
*Criteria:* Interest in low vision considered
Awards Committee makes selection

College of Optometrists in Vision Development Award for Excellence in Vision Therapy

*Eligibility:* Fourth year students
*Criteria:* BV/VT interest considered
Awards Committee makes selection
http://www.covd.org/?page=Grants_Awards

Midland Lions Roger Maier Scholarship

*Eligibility:* Third or Fourth year student
*Criteria:* Midland county, Michigan preference
Awards committee makes selection

Good-Lite Equipment Scholarship Award

*Eligibility:* Fourth year student
*Criteria:* BV/VT interest considered
Awards Committee makes selection

AOF J&J Award for Excellence in Contact Lens Patient Care

*Eligibility:* Fourth year student
*Criteria:* Interest in contact lens considered
Awards Committee makes selection

GP Lens Institute Clinical Excellence Award

*Eligibility:* Fourth year student
*Criteria:* Interest in contact lens considered

Daniel Peterson Memorial Award

*Eligibility:* All students
*Criteria:* No application necessary
OSG representatives makes selection

Michigan College of Optometry Senior Research Awards

*Eligibility:* Fourth year student
*Criteria:* Research paper
1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners

MCO Optometry Super Bowl Travel Grant

*Eligibility:* Second, third or fourth year
*Criteria:* Wins MCO Super Bowl
Registered to attend Optometry’s Meeting
No application necessary
Michigan College of Optometry

External Scholarship Opportunities

- External scholarships require student application to funding source
- The information below includes web-site and criteria to apply

### Opportunities for 2nd or 3rd year students

**J. Pat Cummings Scholarship**

*Eligibility:* Second and third year students  
*Criterion:*  
- Member of American Academy of Optometry  
- Demonstrates the ideal eye care standards of practice, achievement in both academic performance and extracurricular activities and participation in professional pursuits  
*Deadline:* Application materials to MCO Scholarship & Awards Committee by August 25  
*Information:* [http://www.aaopt.org/AOF/Programs/Students/Cummings](http://www.aaopt.org/AOF/Programs/Students/Cummings)

**Walman Optical Company Scholarship Program**

*Eligibility:* Second or third year  
*Criteria:*  
- US citizen  
- Supply Scholarship America with complete transcripts when requested  
- Scholarship America selects winner  
*Deadline:* April 10  
*Where to apply:* [www.walmanoptical.com/files/walmanpdfs/WALMNOC_BRO_APP.pdf](http://www.walmanoptical.com/about/scholarship)

### Opportunities for 3rd year students

**American Optometric Foundation InfantSEE® Scholarship Grant**

*Eligibility:* Third year student  
*Criteria:*  
- Member of AOSA and AOA  
- Student in good academic standing  
- Submit paper (not to exceed 1000 words)  
- Video (not to exceed 3 minutes)  
*Deadline:* Application materials to MCO Scholarship & Awards Committee by October 17  
Scholarship and Awards Committee selection submitted by October 31  

**Dr. Seymour Galina Grant**

*Eligibility:* Third Year Student  
*Criteria:*  
- Member of AOSA and AOA  
- Financial need  
- Paper- maximum 1500-see webpage for paper topic

Revised 8/25/2016
Deadline: Application materials to MCO Scholarship & Awards Committee by October 17
Scholarship and Awards Committee selection submitted by October 31


**Bernard Maitenaz Scholarship, Sponsored by Essilor**

**Eligibility:** Third Year Student

**Criterion:**
- Member of the AOSA and AOA
- In good academic standing
- Demonstrate financial need
- Submit Essay, Video, and letters of recommendation to MCO Awards and Scholarships Committee

**Deadline:** Application materials to MCO Scholarship & Awards Committee by October 17
Scholarship and Awards Committee selection submitted by October 31


**Dr. Larry Alexander Scholarship**

**Eligibility:** Third Year Student

**Criterion:**
- Member of AOSA and AOA
- In good academic standing
- Demonstrate financial need
- Submit 1000 word essay

**Deadline:** Application materials to MCO Scholarship & Awards Committee by October 17
Scholarship and Awards Committee selection submitted by October 31


**Michigan Foundation for Vision Awareness (MFVA-MOA)**

**Eligibility:** Third year student

**Criteria:**
- 3.0GPA
- Financial need
- Intent to practice in Michigan following graduation
- Application
- Transcript from Optometry College
- Letter of reference from optometry faculty member

**Deadline:** May 1

**Where to apply:** [http://www.themoa.org/aws/MOA/pt/sp/mfva_grants](http://www.themoa.org/aws/MOA/pt/sp/mfva_grants)

**Michigan Optometric Association Student of the Year Award**

**Eligibility:** Third year student

**Criteria:**
- Letter of nomination
- Outstanding leadership and achievement
- Michigan resident
- Letter of recommendation from MCO administration
- Nomination determined by the awards committee
- No application necessary
Deadline: December 1  
Where to apply: http://www.themoa.org/aws/MOA/pt/sp/mfva_grants

VSP Scholarship Program
Eligibility: Third year student
Criteria: 
- Top half of class by GPA
- Commitment to enter the independent practice of optometry
- No application necessary, you will be contacted by Scholarship and Awards Committee if eligible
Deadline: August 15  
Information: http://www.aaopt.org/AOF/Programs/Students/VSP

Walmart/Sams Optical Scholarship
Eligibility: Third year student
Criteria: 
- 3.0 minimum GPA
- Financial need
- Community practice desire and experience
- Business development competition-1. Teams of two students will first submit an entry form to Ramon Ralldo and then be sent a link to answer a Virtual Questionnaire via GreenJob showcasing “It’s Your Practice, Your Community and Your Success”.  
2. A select number of teams will then develop and present their concept in the form of a presentation and business plan to a panel of judges at the Regional School Level Competitions. The presentation will be limited to twenty minutes with an additional ten minutes for a question and answer session.
3. There will be one winning team per Region, eight total.
4. The winning team from each Region will be invited to compete at the National Competition at the 2017 Optometry’s Meeting
Deadline: February 4th entrance form submitted Ramon.Yalldo@walmart.com

Opportunities for 3rd or 4th year students

ASCO Student Award in Clinical Ethics
Eligibility: Third and fourth year student
Criteria: 
- Essay describing a patient based case study- The essay must describe and discuss the ethical theories and values that were used in the decision-making process and address relevant state laws relating to the case (if applicable)
Deadline: Application to MCO Scholarship & Awards Committee by Feb 15  
Scholarship and Awards Committee selection submitted by March 1
Essilor/Varilux Student Grant Award

Eligibility: Third or fourth year student
Criteria: - Case Report on patient fit with Varilux lenses, 2,000 word maximum. Report judged on: dispensing skills, application to patient’s needs, case analysis, analysis of lens design and lens performance. Report needs to include patient’s old and new Rx, occupation, hobbies, and other pertinent data.
Deadline: Case reports submitted to MCO Scholarship and Awards Committee by January 15 Scholarship and Awards Committee selection submitted February 1

Opportunities for 4th year students

Alcon 4th Year Student Scholarship Award-Case Study
Eligibility: Fourth Year Student
Criteria: -Case Report
- MCO Scholarship and Awards Committee determines nominee to submit
Deadline: Case Report to MCO Scholarship and Awards Committee by February 29 Scholarship and Awards Committee selection submitted by March 15

American Optometric Association Dr Pat & Patrick Cummings Memorial Scholarship
Eligibility: Fourth Year Student
Criteria: -Resume to summarize academic accomplishments and service
- Paper on specified topic-(criteria subject to change based on company requirements) Dr. Pat Cummings was passionate about improving the overall health of the public. How do you exemplify this passion and what are your goals in the area of public health? Do you plan to take a leadership role in optometry? Please tell us about leadership roles you have had in optometry school and your future leadership goals.
- Awards Committee determines one nominee to submit
Deadline: Application materials to MCO Scholarship & Awards Committee by October 17 Scholarship and Awards Committee selection submitted by October 31
Information: http://www.aoafoundation.org/endowment-fund/scholarship-grant-information/dr-pat-patrick-cummings-scholarship/

Opportunities for all MCO students

Vistakon Award for Excellence in Contact Lens Patient Care
Eligibility: All students
Criteria: -Nominations by contact lens faculty to Scholarship and Awards Committee