

# BASCOM PALMER EYE INSTITUTE OPTOMETRIC RESIDENCY IN OCULAR DISEASE

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

We're glad you're interested in the residency in Ocular Disease at Bascom Palmer Eye Institute in Miami, Florida. The residency has received ACOE accreditation along with Nova Southeastern College of Optometry. Bascom Palmer Eye Institute is regarded as one of the worlds leading eye care centers and the largest of its kind in the southeastern United States. Recently, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute was rated as the number one eye hospital in America by *U.S. News & World Report*. Excellent patient care and an outstanding ophthalmology faculty are the cornerstones on which the foundation has been built.

Optometrists have been at Bascom Palmer since 1974. There is a staff of six O.D.'s including Dr. Charles Pappas, Dr. Mark Dunbar, Dr. John McSoley, Dr. Michelle Caputo, Dr. Terri Rose, and Dr. Mark Coan. These optometrists provide leadership and direction in various subspecialty patient care clinics. In addition, optometric student externs spend part of their fourth year at BPEI gaining valuable clinical experience in the diagnosis and treatment of ocular disease.

Bascom Palmer will provide the framework by which the optometric resident will become proficient in the diagnosis and management of ocular disease. This will be accomplished through dedicated hard work, individual clinical experiences, didactic education and self-study. In helping to achieve this goal, Bascom Palmer offers an environment in which each resident will experience many of the essential aspects necessary in becoming proficient in managing patients with secondary and tertiary ocular conditions. The optometric resident will work one day in a primary care clinic with the remainder of the week being spent working in the various subspecialty ophthalmology faculty clinics which may include medical and surgical retina, glaucoma, external disease, oculoplastics, and neurophthalmology services. This environment will allow the resident to develop excellent diagnostic and treatment skills as well as becoming proficient in advanced diagnostic techniques including fluorescein angiography, echography, visual fields, and laboratory testing.

### **Daily Expectations**

Residents are required to be at the hospital ready to see patients by 8:00 a.m. Monday through Friday, with the exception being on those days when 7:30 a.m. conferences are scheduled. Lunch should be taken when the clinic schedule allows. Except on days when meetings are scheduled, clinics finish around 4:30-5:00 pm. Vacation is allowed after completing a probation period, however "Floating Holidays" may be taken prior to completing the probation period. All vacation or days off must be approved by Dr. Dunbar, the Director of Optometric Services and Residency Supervisor.

### **Educational Conferences**

There are many educational opportunities for the resident outside the area of direct patient care. Mandatory daily and weekly conferences will be held to supplement the residents clinical training and experience. Specifically, the resident will be required to review fluorescein angiograms for a Monday morning fluorescein conference with the residency supervisor, prepare lectures for the Monday Staff meeting, and review journal articles for Tuesday Journal Club. The latter two will be presented to the optometric staff, residents, and externs. Conferences and lectures that the residents are required to attend include:

1. Monday - optometric resident fluorescein review -7:30 a.m.; staff meeting 5:00 p.m.
2. Tuesday - optometric journal club - 4:45 p.m.; fluorescein conference 5:30 p.m.
3. Thursday - grand rounds - 7:30 a.m.; neuro conference - 9:00 a.m.; slide/case conference - 10:00 a.m.

### **Optometry Resident Fluorescein Angiography Case Review**

A weekly fluorescein angiography case review secession will take place 7:30 am on Monday mornings. The resident will be responsible for reviewing at least two fluorescein angiography cases each week. The cases will be reviewed together with the residency supervisor during these conferences.

### **Paper for Publication**

The residents will be required to write one paper worthy of publication in an optometric journal. A rough draft must be completed by January 1. Final draft is due March 1.

### **Lecture to Medical Students**

The optometric residents are required to give a one hour lecture to fourth year medical students as well as family practice residents whom rotate through Bascom Palmer Eye Institute throughout the year. The lecture topics will include refractive error, presbyopia, various spectacle corrections as well as contact lenses (soft and RGP) and basic concepts behind keratorefractive procedures. There are approximately nine groups rotating at the Institute throughout the year so the residents will divide these up among themselves.

### **Optometry Library Slide Collection**

A comprehensive slide collection has been developed over the years by past members of the optometric staff for use by the students, staff, and residents in the preparation of lectures or other presentations. The optometric residents will work with the students in expanding, updating and replenishing the collection.

### **Benefits**

The salary for the optometric residency is \$30,000. Other benefits accrue over a 12 month period including:

1. 10 paid vacation days plus 10 floating holidays
2. 12 sick days
3. Health insurance
4. Paid Florida license

The residents will be given a beeper to utilize for the residency year in addition to having an email address and voice mail.

### **Interview**

Applicants must have graduated from an accredited school or college of optometry and have passed all parts of the National Boards. Residents are also required to pass the Florida State Board licensing exam. **Application deadline for the residency is February 1, of the residency year.** There is no formal application that needs to be filled out. The only Information required for application include:

1. Curriculum Vitae
2. Transcripts from your college of optometry
3. National Board scores
4. Letter of intent
5. Three letters of recommendation

A two day interview is required. Only applicants with a grade point average of 3.0 or greater will be granted an interview; however this is at the discretion of the Residency Supervisor. Interviews will begin in early January on a first come basis and will be completed by February 28. Candidates will be notified of their ranking on March 1 or 2. It is strongly encouraged that applicant call for an interview and to ensure that their application is complete.

Again, thank you for your interest in our residency. We are dedicated to making Bascom Palmer the finest optometry residency program in the country. If you have any further questions please don't hesitate to email me, or call at the number below. We look forward to hearing more from you in the future.

If you need more information, please contact me:

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