

Nova Southeastern University, College of Optometry
Residency in Primary Eye Care

Standard I: Mission, Goals, Objectives, Outcomes, and Program Improvement

MISSION STATEMENT: PRIMARY CARE RESIDENCY PROGRAM

The Residency in Primary Eye Care seeks to attract the best-qualified optometric graduates and provide advanced clinical and didactic education in optometry. The program offers a variety of optometric and interdisciplinary care and is designed to foster a life-long commitment to learning. Graduates of this residency program are trained to deliver superlative clinical care in primary care optometry, to serve as optometric educators, and to serve the profession of optometry as leaders within the community and health care delivery system.

GOAL #1: *To attract a sufficient number of qualified and diversified applicants.*

OBJECTIVES:

1. The Director of Residency Programs will communicate at least once during each recruitment cycle with a contact person at each school or college of optometry.
2. Information about the Primary Care Residency Program will be accessible to all fourth year optometry students throughout the country via applicable websites; such as the ASCO and ORMS webpages, as well as the Nova Southeastern University website.
3. The program will be advertised in at least one optometric publication at least once each year.
4. The Director of Residency Programs, or representative, will be available to talk with prospective candidates about the residency program at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Optometry (AAO), and other meetings when possible (e.g. AOSA, AOA, SECO, etc.)
5. All candidates who apply for the program will be contacted personally by the Director of Residency Programs, either in written (e-mail) or oral form. Informational letters will be sent to interested candidates via e-mail.

GOAL #2: *To select the most qualified candidates from the pool of applicants in a fair and impartial manner.*

OBJECTIVES:

1. Every candidate will be considered in a fair and impartial manner. All candidates are required to submit the following application materials to the Director of Residency Programs by *February 1st* preceding the residency year:
 - a. Letter of intent
 - b. Current curriculum vitae (CV)

- c. Official transcripts from optometry school and any other post-graduate educational program
 - d. NSU Residency Application Form (available on-line)
 - e. Three (3) letters of recommendation
2. A passing score from Part I of the NBEO is required to be interviewed; Part II and TMOD scores shall be submitted as soon as they are available. Candidates must pass both Part II and TMOD by the ORMatch match date in order to be ranked in ORMatch by March of the preceding residency year. Candidates that do not pass Part II or TMOD, but have completed their application, will not be ranked but may be considered for any remaining unfilled positions once Part I, II and TMOD have been successfully completed.
 3. Every candidate that applies is required to take Part III of NBEO and scores submitted as soon as available. Residents must be eligible to obtain a license in Florida or another state in the US and eligible to obtain a Faculty Certificate.
 4. At least three (3) letters of recommendation are required, two of which must be from individuals who are familiar with the candidate's clinical skills.
 5. Every candidate who applies must also register with the Optometry Residency Matching Service (ORMatch), unless the candidate is applying for an UNFILLED position AFTER the official match date for a given year.
 6. Every candidate will be required to demonstrate adequate clinical and didactic knowledge through any of the following means:
 - a. Clinical faculty recommendations
 - b. Demonstrated self-study or research
 - c. Active involvement in student scholarly groups
 - d. Outside employment
 - e. Clinical questions on interview
 7. Every candidate *must be personally* interviewed by the Director of Residency Programs to be considered for the program. Additional faculty may participate in the interview. Telephone interviews are not granted without extenuating circumstances and are only permissible when travel to the clinical facility is *impossible*.
 8. Every candidate will be evaluated and rated by members of the Interview Committee, based upon the interview and the candidates' submitted materials, in the areas of:
 - a. Didactic and clinical knowledge
 - b. Interpersonal skills
 - c. Integrity
 - d. Adaptability
 - e. Motivation
 - f. Maturity
 - g. Patient management skills
 9. Based on ratings of the Interview Committee members, the Director of Residency Programs will select and rank the most qualified applicant(s). The names of those candidates who are found to be acceptable will be submitted to the administrators at the Optometry Residency Matching Service (ORMatch), according to their policies and deadlines. Candidates who match via ORMatch will be notified of this decision in a timely fashion via e-mail through ORMatch.

GOAL #3: *To provide faculty and administrative support commensurate with the needs of the residency program.*

OBJECTIVES:

1. For each Primary Care Resident, the equivalent of 0.1 FTE (one half day) per week of Faculty support will be allocated for consultation, case discussion and journal club during the Resident Conference Series, as well as for assisting the Resident in the preparation of a scholarly paper for publication.
2. The equivalent of 0.3 FTE (one and one-half days) per week of administrative time will be provided to the Director of Residency Programs; additional time will be made available by the administration on an as-needed basis when the needs of the program are more intensive, e.g. during orientation of new Residents and interviews of Residency Candidates.
3. The equivalent of 0.1 FTE (one half day) per week of administrative time will be provided to the Residency Education Coordinator.
4. Adequate secretarial and administrative support will be made available through the secretarial pool in the administration suite or qualified "work-study" students from outside the College.
5. Designated Faculty (Residency Supervisors) from the Primary Care Service will be available for consultation, case discussion, and clinical assistance with patient care throughout the year.

GOAL #4: *To provide facilities and equipment to adequately serve the needs of the resident(s).*

OBJECTIVES:

1. A room, locker and telephone for all Residents' use will be provided in the clinical patient care area.
2. Computers will be provided and available for all Residents' use in the clinical patient care area. In addition, access to the Faculty computer suite will be provided to all Residents, which is located in the administrative suite on the 4th floor of the Terry Bldg.
3. Each Resident will be assigned an NSU ID number and provided internet access and an e-mail account.
4. State of the art clinical equipment will be available for Resident use.
5. The Residents will have access to at least one set of portable diagnostic clinical equipment for primary care examinations. This will be kept in the Residents' office at the Davie Campus.
6. The on-campus and electronic library will be available to all Residents.

GOAL #5: *To provide a varied clinical patient base, assuring an adequate clinical experience for each resident to achieve advanced competency in primary eye care.*

OBJECTIVES:

1. Each Resident shall demonstrate competence in the evaluation and management of a wide variety of patient encounters by performing comprehensive eye examinations, follow-up examinations, urgent care examinations, observing care rendered by other professionals, and precepting third and fourth year optometry students.
2. Each Resident will participate in after hours "on-call" service, as directed by the Director of Residency Programs.
3. Each Resident will maintain a log of all patient encounters, which shall include patient numbers, level of Resident involvement and diagnosis.

GOAL #6: *To provide the opportunity for each primary care resident to choose an area of emphasis and participate in clinical rotations within that area through one of the NSU Specialty Care Services and/or external observations. Each area of emphasis will develop learning goals and objectives unique to those additional assignments. These areas include cornea and contact lenses, ocular disease, geriatrics and low vision or pediatrics and binocular vision. The clinical curriculum for each area of emphasis within primary care may vary slightly allowing for additional exposure in these specialty services. The number of patient encounters may also vary depending on the area of emphasis and nature of the examinations performed.*

Primary Care with emphasis in Cornea and Contact Lenses:

Goal: Increase competency in the diagnosis and management of corneal and refractive conditions.

Goal: To increase competence in contact lens fitting and exposure to specialty contact lens fittings in post-refractive patients and those with corneal disease.

1. Objective: The resident will provide patient care in the Cornea & Contact Lens Service.
2. Objective: The resident will participate in contact lens workshops placing an emphasis on advanced competencies.
3. Objective: The resident will participate in the OD4 case conference and scientific journal review.
4. Objective: The resident may shadow patients in patient care environments that are complementary to the program goal, including refractive surgery sites and a corneal specialist.

Goal: Improve the resident's ability to teach students in a contact lens clinical setting.

1. Objective: The resident will precept students in the Cornea & Contact Lens Service.
2. Objective: The resident will precept students in the Contact Lens I and Contact Lens II pre-clinical laboratories.
3. Objective: The resident may lead case conference in the final months of the residency.

Primary Care with emphasis in Ocular Disease

Goal: Increase competency in diagnosing patients with glaucoma as well as the development of appropriate diagnostic and management plans for these patients.

1. Objective: The resident will observe patient care in the Glaucoma Service.
2. Objective: The resident will participate in case discussion with Dr. Sowka on patient management.
3. Objective: The resident will perform visual fields, nerve fiber layer analysis (via GDx, HRT, and/or OCT), pachymetry and photography and demonstrate proper interpretation of these tests.
4. Objective: The resident will engage in case review at the end of each clinic session to review test interpretation.

Goal: Increase competency in the development of diagnostic and management plans for patients with diabetes and macular disease.

1. Objective: The resident will observe and participate in patient care in the Diabetes Service at TECL.
2. Objective: The resident will participate in case discussion with Residency Supervisors on patient management.
3. Objective: The resident will perform optical coherence tomography, PHP and macular pigment test (MPOD Quantif eye) macular pigment density testing.
4. Objective: The resident will engage in case review at the end of each clinic session to review test interpretation

Goal: The resident will become more competent in the identification of external, corneal, retinal and neuro-ophthalmic disease.

1. Objective: The residents will perform external observation with at least one retina specialist as well as a neuro-ophthalmologist, general ophthalmologist and corneal specialist.

Primary Care with emphasis in Low Vision & Geriatrics

Goal: Increase competency in the development of diagnostic and management plans for elderly patients and patients with visual impairment, as well as develop sensitivity toward these patients.

1. **Objective:** The resident will observe patient care in a variety of clinical settings including private practice, university clinics and other multidiscipline practice (e.g. Lighthouse clinic).
2. **Objective:** The resident will have the opportunity to provide direct patient care in area of low vision rehabilitation.
3. **Objective:** The resident will be given didactic coursework and participate in discussion and review of these underlying principles of low vision practice with the low vision/geriatric program director.

Goal: Improve the resident's ability to perform and properly interpret the results of specialized testing and competently prescribe advanced low vision rehabilitation treatment.

1. **Objective:** The resident will perform specialized testing and prescribe the various prosthetic devices associated with a low vision rehabilitation service, including visual acuity charts (Feinbloom, ETDRS charts), contrast sensitivity charts (Peli-Robson, Vistech), modified subjective trial frame refraction, and work with a variety of optical and non-optical devices (magnifiers, telescopes, spectacle mounted telescopes, microscopes, electronic magnification, illumination, and filters).
2. **Objective:** The resident will engage in case review at the end of each clinic session to review how tests are interpreted and the strategies utilized for meeting patient goals.

Goal: Improve the resident's ability to teach students in a low vision and geriatric clinical setting.

1. **Objective:** The residents will precept students in the Low Vision Rehabilitation and Geriatric Services.
2. **Objective:** The residents will precept students in the Low Vision Rehabilitation pre-clinical laboratories.
3. **Objective:** The resident may lecture in the Low Vision Rehabilitation course.

Primary Care with emphasis in Pediatrics and Binocular Vision

Goal: Increase competency in the diagnostic and management of pediatric patients and patients of all ages with binocular vision dysfunctions.

1. **Objective:** The resident may provide direct care in the Peds/BV Service.
2. **Objective:** The resident will precept students in the Peds/BV Service.
3. **Objective:** The resident may participate in Peds/BV labs and/or Peds/BV case conference.
4. **Objective:** The resident may participate in Peds/BV related outreach opportunities (such as Special Olympics)

Goal: Improve the resident's ability to teach students in pediatric settings clinically and didactically.

1. **Objective:** The resident will precept student in the Peds/BV Service.
2. **Objective:** The resident may participate in Peds/BV related labs and/or Peds/BV case conference.
3. **Objective:** The resident may lead a Peds/BV related labs and/or Peds/BV case conference session.
4. **Objective:** The resident may provide a guest lecture in a Peds/BV related course.

GOAL #7: To provide educational opportunities in a multidisciplinary environment to help the resident develop a broad understanding of the health care delivery system

1. Each Resident will rotate through an ophthalmology subspecialty, depending on the Resident's area of interest. These rotations may include one or more of the following; retina, neuro-ophthalmology, general ophthalmology, oculo-plastics, pediatric ophthalmology, cornea and anterior segment and/or surgical observation.
2. The Residents may rotate through medical rotations in areas such as Family Medicine, Internal Medicine and Neurology/Radiology upon request. Other subspecialties may be added (and/or deleted) based upon an individual Resident's needs after consultation with the Residency Advisory Board.

GOAL #8: *To provide didactic instruction to all residents.*

OBJECTIVES:

1. Each Resident shall have the opportunity to audit any courses within the Optometry curriculum, as interest and clinic schedules permit. These courses shall be offered at no charge to the Resident.
2. Each Resident will have the opportunity to participate in the *Bascom Palmer Eye Institute Grand Rounds* on Thursday mornings. All Residents are expected to attend at least once a month based on the schedule provided for the Resident Conference Series.
3. Each Resident is strongly encouraged (and is provided with funding) to attend at least one professional meeting during the year, in order to partake in educational seminars or present research papers or case study posters. Examples of such meetings include the American Optometric Association Annual Congress (AOA), the American Academy of Optometry Annual Meeting (AAO), the Southern Educational Congress of Optometry (SECO), and/or the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) Annual Meeting.
4. All Residents are invited to attend, free of charge, any and all Continuing Education Programs sponsored by the College.
5. All Residents will attend the Thursday morning Resident Conference Series and attend scheduled lectures.

GOAL #9: *To develop and enhance the residents' teaching and presentation skills.*

OBJECTIVES:

1. Each Resident shall have the opportunity to prepare and deliver at least one formal lecture to optometry Students, fellow Residents and/or Faculty.
2. During each clinical session, when time allows, the Resident is encouraged to lead case discussions with the Students, with the input and participation of the Residency Supervisor (Module Chief). Feedback on the Resident's effectiveness in case discussion shall be incorporated into the Resident Evaluations performed by the Residency Supervisors.
3. Each Resident may participate in the third year Clinical Module Conference under the direction and supervision of the Module Chiefs, as their schedule allows.
4. Each Resident will participate in the teaching of optometric procedures within the clinical facilities and/or the Optometric Theory and Methods (OTM) laboratories on a limited basis. These encounters may consist of interaction with first, second, or third year optometry Students.
5. Each Resident shall participate in a monthly Journal Club during the Thursday morning Resident Conference Series.

GOAL #10: *To increase the resident's skills in and knowledge about scholarly activities*

OBJECTIVES:

1. Each Resident shall prepare a manuscript of publishable quality, with feedback and guidance provided by a Residency Supervisor.

2. Each Resident shall participate in monthly Journal Club during the Thursday morning Resident Conference Series.
3. Additional time will be allotted for research and scholarly activity. Scholarship time is available throughout the year prior to or following Residency Conference Series lectures on Thursday mornings. Additional scholarship time shall be provided in the residents weekly schedule, during operating hours of the clinic and University library, when the Resident is assigned to a 5.5 day work week (involving a half day of Saturday clinic).

GOAL # 11: *To expand and improve the residents' intra- and inter-professional communication abilities and skills.*

OBJECTIVES:

1. Each Resident shall attend at least three (3) local professional society meetings during the residency. When requested, the Resident should be available to present case discussions at these meetings.
2. Each Resident shall actively participate in various formats of discussion while on rotations in ophthalmology/medical subspecialties.
3. Each Resident shall prepare patient referrals to outside practitioners. These referrals will be reviewed by the Residency Supervisor while the Resident is within the first 3 levels of Residency Supervision. Documentation will be kept in the patient's electronic medical record and recorded in the Resident patient log.

GOAL #12: *To prepare residency graduates for a possible career in optometric education.*

OBJECTIVES:

1. Resources, in the form of knowledgeable Faculty members or written documentation (letter or e-mail), shall be provided to the Resident regarding job availabilities at Schools and Colleges of Optometry.
2. A majority of the Resident's time shall be devoted to precepting third or fourth year optometry Students in a clinical setting, with supervision by a Residency Supervisor.
3. Residents shall be encouraged to become student members in the American Academy of Optometry, with the anticipation that they will go on to become Fellows. Faculty guidance is given to those Residents applying for Fellowship.