

Salary & Benefits

The salary and benefit structure for the resident is established by the Veterans Health Administration and is competitive with other residency programs. The current salary is \$35,063. The resident has the opportunity to acquire partially subsidized health, dental, and life insurance at the VA. Residents earn four hours each of annual and sick leave each pay period (every 2 weeks). The VA provides 10 paid holidays. Education time is allowed for the resident to attend at least one educational meeting outside the normal educational opportunities offered by the program, and the resident also receives authorized absence for state boards.

Professional Liability & Insurance

The VA does not require liability insurance. Liability Protection under the Federal Tort Claims act is provided to all residents for professional duties performed within the VA as long as the residents are acting within the scope of their assignments.

Requirements for Completion

Satisfactory completion of the residency program requires the following:

- Attendance at all scheduled clinics, lectures and/or seminars
- Preparation and delivery of all clinical, didactic, and scholarship assignments
- Attend and actively participate in journal reviews
- Receipt of overall satisfactory evaluation from all residency supervisors
- Prepare a manuscript of publishable quality
- Submit all clinical, didactic, and scholarship logs as requested

The resident will receive a certificate of completion signed by the Residency Program Coordinator, Director of Residency Programs, and Dean of the College.

For More Information

Contact:

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Bradenton VA Optometry Residency



*Bay Pines VA
Health Care System*



Program Mission

The Bradenton VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic in Bradenton, Florida, sponsored by Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry, offers a one-year optometric residency in primary eye care with an emphasis in ocular disease. The mission of the program is to provide qualified optometry post-graduates didactic and clinical training that will further develop and enhance skills in primary care and ocular disease. Individuals completing the program will be able to deliver an advanced level of optometric care in a clinical setting, participate in co-management and multidisciplinary practices, and/or serve as clinical instructors at schools of optometry, or teaching institutions.

Program Description

The Primary Care with an Emphasis in Ocular Disease Residency is a one year salaried program that typically begins around July 1st and ends June 30th the following year. New employee orientation is completed online prior to July. The resident will be required to work 40 hours per week, 52 weeks a year, excluding federal holidays, authorized absence, annual and sick leave. The tour of duty is 7:30-4:00 Mon-Fri with Friday morning lectures. There are no after hours responsibilities. The resident's primary duty will be to provide comprehensive optometry care to patients of the Bradenton VA Eye Clinic. The level of care that is provided by the resident is dependent upon the scope of practice authorized by the resident's and attending physician's state license, as well as the level of clinical competence exhibited by the resident. Additional duties include supervising and instructing optometry externs, attending a variety of educational lectures, both at the VA and local optometric society, and writing a paper of publishable quality. Dr. Katherine Dunatov serves as the Residency Program Coordinator and holds faculty appointments with Nova Southeastern University, and Western University College of Optometry.

Program Goals

- To attract an extensive pool of well-qualified applicants.
- To strengthen the resident's primary care clinical diagnosis and management skills.
- To provide an extensive post-graduate level didactic and seminar program on topics related to optometry and ophthalmology.
- To enhance the resident's knowledge of advanced eye care procedures, low vision examinations, as well as management of post-operative patients.
- To develop the communication, teaching, and supervisory skills of the resident.
- To develop and enhance the scholarly activities of the resident.

Patient Demographics

The Bradenton VA serves a predominantly elderly male population with a significant incidence of ocular and systemic pathology.

Eligibility Requirements

The following credentials are required to apply for the resident program:

- Candidates must possess an O.D. degree from a COE-accredited institution or be in their final year of training at such an institution.
- Candidates must have passed Part I of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) examination and either have passed part II or be scheduled to sit for Part II of the examination at the time of application.
- Candidates should have a grade point average greater than 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- By law, candidates must be citizens of the United States.
- Candidates must be eligible for licensure as an optometrist in the State of Florida and must obtain licensure in Florida or another state of their choice.
Current CPR certification is required prior to start of the residency program.

Application Process

- Candidates must register with the Optometry Residency Matching Service (ORMS) by submitting a completed application
- CV, official transcripts, and a brief statement detailing desire to complete a residency are sent to Program Coordinator
- Minimum of 3 letters of recommendation to be sent directly from the reference to the Program Coordinator
- By law, candidates must be citizens of the United States.
- Complete an in-person interview