MISSION STATEMENT

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, to serve as optometric educators, and to serve the profession of optometry as leaders within the community and health care delivery system.

AREA OF EMPHASIS

Each primary care resident may select an area of emphasis in which to further his/her clinical knowledge. These areas may include ocular disease (three positions), cornea and contact lenses (two positions), pediatrics and binocular vision (two positions), and geriatrics and low vision (one position). The primary care with emphasis in ocular disease resident spends approximately 50-60% of their clinical time in primary care and 40-50% of their clinical time in specialty services related to the chosen area of emphasis. External rotations are arranged with specialists based on the area of emphasis with the schedule rotating every four months. The amount of clinical time spent in the area of specialty may vary depending on clinical need or between each month rotation.
PRIMARY CARE RESIDENCY

The Eye Care Institute, with its wide diversity of patients and clinical facilities, provides a large ocular disease patient base. Through the Advanced Care Service and our outlying community-based clinics, The Eye Care Institute renders care for a wide range of ocular disorders, including glaucoma, retinal disease, and traumatic injuries. The resident will have access to advanced diagnostic equipment, including Spectral Domain OCT and OCTA, PreView PHP, digital fundus photography, FAF, automated visual fields, and ultrasonography. Residents in Primary Care with Emphasis in Ocular Disease enjoy regular rotations through our on-campus Urgent Care Service, Glaucoma Service, and Diabetes and Macular Disease Service. In addition, off-campus specialty rotations include general ophthalmology, retina, oculoplastics, ocular oncology, cornea, and neuro-ophthalmology with fellowship-trained ophthalmologists committed to training residents. Residents provide patient care as a student preceptor as well as direct primary care throughout the year. Additional external clinical rotations in optometric and/or medical subspecialties are also available and arranged throughout the year.

PREREQUISITES

All candidates will be considered in a fair and impartial manner. The deadline for applications is February 1st. All candidates wishing to be considered must submit or meet the following criteria:

- current curriculum vitae
- three letters of recommendation
- official transcripts from ACOE-accredited college of optometry demonstrating minimum GPA of 2.8 or an average of 82 percent
- passing score on NBEO Part I to be interviewed and passing NBEO Part II/TMOD to be placed
- completed application form
- ORMatch application
- submit to a personal interview
- obtain a Doctor of Optometry degree from an ACOE-accredited school or college of optometry
- required to take Part III and be license-eligible in Florida or another state and eligible for Faculty Certificate
- valid social security number and/or visa

program length and schedule

The Primary Care Residency is a 12.5-month program. The salary is $38,000 a year plus the additional pro-rated 2 weeks the following July. The resident is expected to work up to 5.5 days per week. The clinics are open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. All residents are expected to work for part of the year on Saturday, which is a half day, from 8:00 a.m. to approximately 1:00 p.m. Clinical assignments vary and are determined by the residency director, with assignments rotating every 3-4 months.

benefits

- professional liability insurance is covered for patient care provided at NSU clinical sites.
- health and dental insurance provided commensurate to faculty coverage.
- leave of 5.5 vacation days, 3 personal days, 5 sick days, and 10 professional development days to attend conferences and seminars.
- a travel stipend will be provided to attend professional conferences.
- business cards and clinic jackets
- residents may enroll in the online NOVA Masters in Clinical Vision Science with tuition waiver after 6 months, though student activity fees must still be paid by the resident.

completion requirements

- overall satisfactory evaluations
- complete a manuscript of publishable quality
- attend all assigned conferences
- prepare/deliver grand round presentations and lectures
- attend all scheduled clinical assignments
- complete all patient, didactic, and scholarship logs
- attend the minimum number (3) of local society meetings

CURRICULUM

- supervision of patient care provided by student clinicians
- observation of care provided by specialized physicians
- direct patient care
- rotating after-hours urgent care
- laboratory teaching

- preparation of a paper of publishable quality
- assistance with the preparation of publishable abstracts and posters
- delivery of lectures and grand rounds presentations
- grand rounds at NSU and the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
- journal review and discussion
- independent study