

Aran Eye Associates

Residency in Ocular Disease

in affiliation with

NOVA Southeastern University College of Optometry



Background

Aran Eye Associates is a multi-subspecialty tertiary care referral private practice. We have several fully equipped offices throughout southeast Florida and are one of the largest ophthalmic practices in the region. We have been active in optometric education since the practice's inception in 1988. In addition to educating residents and externs, we sponsor continuing education seminars for local optometric physicians. Aran Eye Associates has a long history of dedication to optometric education in a friendly and exciting clinical environment. The practice is an excellent model for effective O.D. - M.D. patient management.

Program overview

Our residency program in ocular disease offers intensive training in the detection and management of ocular pathology and trauma, as well as pre- and post-surgical patient care. In addition to the clinical training, residents attend weekly didactic lectures with local ophthalmology residents and community ophthalmologists, participate in the Extern Grand Rounds at our practice, have the responsibilities of an on-call physician and become involved in the Broward and the Miami-Dade county optometric associations.

Residents have the opportunity to observe surgical procedures performed by our staff ophthalmologists including, but not limited to: cataract extraction, penetrating keratoplasty (PKP), Descemet's stripping automated endothelial keratoplasty (DSAEK), as well as refractive surgery such as LASIK and PRK. Residents also observe glaucoma, vitreo-retinal and oculoplastic surgeries and minor office procedures. Residents have the opportunity to become proficient in the use and interpretation of corneal topography, visual fields, biometry and Optical Coherence Tomography.

Our physicians

Alberto Aran, MD

Cornea, cataract and Laser Vision Correction specialist

Medical Director

Arnulfo Mansur, MD- General Ophthalmology

Macro Fabrega, MD – General Ophthalmology

Kenneth Wals, MD – Vitreous and retina specialist

Analisa Arosemena, MD – Glaucoma, cornea and cataract specialist

Emilio Balius, OD – Consultative Optometry; Clinical Director

Aura Zambrano, OD - Consultative Optometry

Jessica Rodriguez, OD - Consultative Optometry

Adam Stelzer, OD – Clinical Director, Laser Center of Coral Gables

Frequently asked questions

Who's eligible to apply?

- Candidates who have matriculated with a Doctor of Optometry (O.D.) degree from ACOE accredited college or school of optometry and
- Are eligible to obtain optometric license to practice in Florida

What materials are required to apply?

Register with ORMatch at <https://www.natmatch.com/ormatch/applregister.html> then send the following materials to Dr Emilio Balias, Residency Director, 951 S Le Jeune Road Suite 200, Coral Gables, FL 33134

- Letter of intent
- Curriculum vitae
- Undergraduate and optometry school transcripts
- NBEO Part I, Part II and TMOD scores
- Three letters of recommendation from clinical instructors

A passing score on NBEO Part I is required to be invited to an interview; Part II and TMOD scores should be submitted as soon as they become available. Candidates must pass both Part II and TMOD by ORMatch match date in order to be ranked in ORMatch by March of the preceding year. Candidates who do not pass Part II and TMOD, but have completed their applications, will not be ranked in ORMatch.

Residents must be eligible to obtain a license in Florida. Every candidate that applies is required to take and pass NBEO Part III by July of the residency year. In the event that the resident has not passed Part III by July of the residency year, their contract will be nullified.

What are resident benefits?

- 13-months program starting July 1st and ending July 31st of the following year
- Average of 40 hours per week
- on-call duties starting January 1
- Compensation of \$34,000.00
- 10 days of paid time off
- Healthcare commensurate with staff doctor coverage
- Professional liability protection is 100% reimbursed once the resident becomes licensed in Florida
- Continuing education stipend of \$500.00

What are the resident responsibilities?

- Direct patient care
- Supervising forth year optometry externs
- Extern schedule
- Participation in weekly Extern Grand Rounds including a quarterly lecture

- Attendance on weekly basis to Grand Rounds at Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
- Attendance to county optometric association meetings, local continuing education seminars, as well as selected state and national optometric meetings
- Self-directed study and research resulting in a publishable paper

What are the requirements for completion of the residency program?

- Fulfill all terms of the employment contract
- Fulfill attendance requirements to clinics, Extern Grand Rounds, Fluorescein conference, Grand Rounds and optometric association meetings
- Complete all patient, didactic and scholarly logs in timely manner and submit them to the Residency Program Coordinator
- Present 4 lectures at Extern Grand Rounds
- Write a publishable quality paper
- Receive overall satisfactory evaluations from the Residency Program Coordinator

Is the program accredited? How many candidates are accepted each year?

Our program has been accredited by ACOE since 1989 and we have two residents positions available per academic year.

Is housing provided?

No. Residents make their own housing arrangements. These need to be finalized before July 5th. Some of the most accessible areas around Miami include Coral Gables, Doral, Miami Beach and the Brickell area of downtown.

Do I need a car?

Yes, a reliable vehicle and insurance coverage are mandatory. There is a significant amount of driving involved on weekly basis, as our offices are located in Coral Gables, Hialeah, Kendall, North Miami, Sunrise and Fort Lauderdale.

Do I need to be fluent in Spanish?

Miami has a very large Spanish-speaking population. We've had many residents who were not fluent in Spanish that have successfully completed our program. Our staff is bilingual and will be happy to assist you in any way that you need.

What equipment do I need to bring?

All you need to bring is your white lab coat and funduscopic lenses. All clinics have fully-equipped lanes. In addition, you will find Humphrey visual-field machines, tonopens, pachymeters, ultrasound and fundus cameras, as well as OCTs.

What is the schedule like?

Morning clinics start at 8am and afternoon clinics start at 1pm. Surgery starts at 7am. Depending on the doctor and location the day ends between 5 and 6 pm. There is a weekly meeting with the externs from around 5:30 pm until 7pm.

What services are provided at Aran Eye Associates?

We specialize in tertiary care. Our sub-specialties include cornea and cataract, glaucoma, retina, and oculoplastics. In addition we also provide general ophthalmology and consultative optometry services as well as laser vision correction. As part of the residency program, our residents will also have the opportunity to work with neuro-ophthalmologists. You can find more information on our website at www.araneye.com

Who can I contact if I have questions?

Please direct all questions to Dr Emilio Balius

Residency Director
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