

Vision Care Technician



Information Packet

CV//TECH

Canadian Valley Technology Center

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Admission Policies And Procedures For Vision Care Assistant

Become a Certified Ophthalmic Assistant (COA)

The Vision Care Technician program will equip you with the skills needed to assist Ophthalmologists in a clinic setting and in the performance of minor surgical procedures.

Adult Program

Become a Certified Ophthalmic Assistant. This full-time program is a paid apprenticeship with only 350 class time hours and majority of this 1-year program completed on-site at Dean McGee Eye Institute as an employee.

High School Seniors

This 10-month program covers all coursework and lab experience required for future employment and certification as a Certified Ophthalmic Assistant. When students finish this program, they are ready for employment where they will complete required internship hours on-the-job to complete their certification.

Discuss your potential enrollment and career choices by contacting our Career Counselor at 405-345-3340.

Adult Enrollment Requirements:

- High School Diploma or GED required for enrollment as an adult.
- Accuplacer Assessment or documentation for Testing Waiver

Accuplacer Testing - To be eligible for enrollment, the following Accuplacer scores are required:

- **Reading – 235** and
- **Arithmetic – 238**

Contact our assessment center at 405-422-2382 to schedule an appointment for testing. You will see a counselor the same day you test.

Accuplacer Testing Waiver - Applicants with any of the following do not need to take the Accuplacer test:

- ACT of 19 or SAT of 980 within the past 5 years
- 12 hours of at least level 1 college credit within the past 5 years
- Associate Degree within the past 5 years or Bachelors Degree

Method of Payment

CV Tech's Vision Care Technician Program is a registered apprenticeship

program with the U.S. Department of Labor. While enrolled in this program, students are paid employees of Dean McGee Eye Institute with benefits, including health insurance and a \$150 clothing allowance for scrubs. Dean McGee Eye Institute (DMEI) will also pay for tuition, fees and books for students who agree to work for the institute for two years after program completion.

- **This program does not qualify for Financial Aid (FAFSA) or Pell Grants**
- **High school seniors attend free of charge.**

Immunization Record

Flu, Covid, and Hep B vaccinations are required by Dean McGee Eye Institute for students in the apprenticeship program. Hep B shots provided by DMEI if needed. COVID waivers available.

Application for Employment

- Once approved for enrollment, adult students will apply for employment with Dean McGee Eye Institute (DMEI) and go through an interview process. **CV Tech offers assistance with resume writing, application completion, and interview skills.**
- After the hiring process is completed, students will be able to start working with DMEI if they choose...even before they start class at CV Tech. When classes start, students will be at CV Tech in mornings and at DMEI in the afternoons for one semester, then at DMEI full time 2nd semester.
- As an apprentice, training is competency-based. This means each student has a checklist of professional skills they are working to master. Once each skill is mastered, it is checked off the list and the student is closer to completion and certification. If a student completes the list of competencies faster than expected, they are allowed to complete the program faster than expected. Once certified, employees get a pay raise at DMEI. Starting pay as a student/apprentice is around \$14/hr. Program completion takes about one year.

Hours for Vision Care Course Completion: High School and Adult

High School Program	Hours
Vision Care Introduction	30
Optics	120
Ocular Anatomy and Physiology	80
Ocular Medical Terminology	40
Photography and Imaging	80
Ocular Disease and Pharmacology	60
Clinical Skills	70
Total Hours	480

Adult Apprenticeship	Hours
Eye Care Safety	25
Optics	85
Ocular Anatomy and Physiology	65
Ocular Medical Terminology	35
Photography and Imaging	50
Ocular Pharmacology and Diseases	50
Basics of Opticianry	40
Apprenticeship Work Process	2000
Total Hours (Note: Adult tuition/fees are calculated only on the 350 class hours)	2350

Approximate Costs Associated with the Adult Vision Care Program:

Item	Cost
Tuition: In-district	\$2.50/ clock hour
Tuition: Out-of-district	\$5.00/ clock hour
General Enrollment Fee	\$52.50
Tablet, laptop, or Chromebook for ebooks	Not sold in the bookstore

Textbooks from CV Tech bookstore (amount is approximate)	\$125.00
National background check (may need more than 1)	\$60.00
Uniforms - charcoal gray scrubs (2 tops, 2 pants)	\$90.00
Shoes (comfortable closed-toe athletic shoes)	\$60.00
American Heart Association Basic Life Support Provider CPR (AHA BLS)	\$11.00
American Heart Association First Aid Certification	\$5.00

All Costs Are Subject To Change Without Notice.

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After 10 days of instruction no refund of tuition or fees will be made.

No refunds will be given for textbooks unless the textbook is returned in the original condition with the original Canadian Valley Technology Center receipt.

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

1) What is the difference between a traditional program and an apprenticeship program?

Traditional Program – All students start and complete class at the same time. Students pay tuition based on time spent in class. Most of the training takes place in the classroom. Students are prepared for employment after completing the program. The traditional program is for high school students and classes meet 12:25-3:15, Monday-Friday.

Apprenticeship Program – Students are paid employees in the industry while completing the training program. Most of the training takes place on-the-job. Completion times can vary from student to student depending on how quickly new skills are mastered.

This is an apprenticeship program for adult students. Classes meet 8:25-11:15 and 12:25-4:30, Monday- Friday. Attendance is strictly enforced. Full-time enrollment only.

This is a traditional program for high school students and classes meet 12:25-3:15, Monday-Friday.

2) What certification can I earn through the Eyecare Assistant Program?

JCAHPO Certified Ophthalmic Assistant (COA)
AHA BLS Provider, CPR, and First Aid

3) What is the average length of time in which students complete the program?

Adults – 1 calendar year High school seniors – 10 months

4) What is the dress code?

Students must wear scrubs every day (gray); you may wear a CV Tech t-shirt instead of a scrub top in class, but a full set of scrubs is required on the job. A sweatshirt (no hoodies) or jacket is allowed with a CV Tech short sleeve t-shirt under. Students must wear healthcare appropriate shoes (athletic, closed toe shoes that are clean and professional, no Croc type shoes). Long fingernails can interfere with completing the skills of a technician. Please keep nails to a modest length; consider no more than a quarter of an inch beyond your fingertip.

5) Will I have to do a drug test?

Canadian Valley Technology Center is partnered with Dean McGee Eye Institute to provide apprenticeships for students in the Vision Care Technician Program. As employees of DMEI, students are expected to adhere to their employee drug testing policies.

6) What if I have to miss class?

Students who exceed the attendance policy may forfeit the opportunity to attend the remainder of the current semester and the following semester or be completely withdrawn from the program. Adult students may have employment terminated.