

EYE on EDUCATION

Monthly Newsletter

ASCO ASSOCIATION of
SCHOOLS and COLLEGES
of OPTOMETRY

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February 2026

ASCO NEWS

Optometric Education – Celebrating 50 Years of Scholarship



ASCO's online Journal, [Optometric Education](#), (OE), is published three times a year and is the only Journal solely dedicated to optometric education and academic optometry.

[Learn More...](#)

2026 Optometric Education Leadership Institute



The Optometric Education Leadership Institute (OELI) will be held on April 8-9, 2026, at the Alcon headquarters in Fort Worth, Texas. This program has limited space, and registration will be taken on a first-come, first-serve basis.

[Learn More...](#)

ASCO Student Award in Clinical Ethics



Deadline to submit essays is February 20, 2026

The Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry is now accepting essays for the 2026 Student award in Clinical Ethics.

[Learn More...](#)

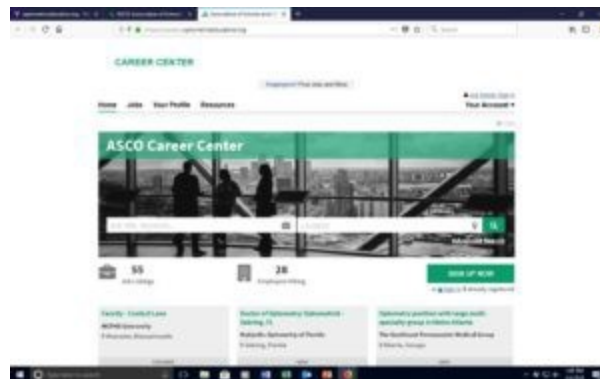
ASCO Launches Eye Opener Sessions, a Shadowing/Mentorship Opportunity and Matching Service for Potential Optometry Students and Practicing Doctors of Optometry



The Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO) announces *Eye Opener Sessions*, a complement to ASCO's public awareness campaign, *Optometry Gives Me Life*.

[Learn More...](#)

ASCO Online Career Center



The Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry offers a [Career Center](#) resource, hosted by Boxwood.

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CORPORATE CONTRIBUTOR NEWS

Clasp News



Check out Clasp Spring 2026 Programs

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CooperVision News



What Future ODs Should Know About Winter and Myopia

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NIDEK Inc. News



NIDEK Inc. Now Distributes the NEW Medmont Meridia™ Vantage Topographer to U.S. Optometrists
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Topcon News



Meet OMNIA TRK-3: A 4-in-1 Patient Screening Solution Built for Modern Workflows
[Learn More...](#)

VSP Vision News



VSP Vision and the AAOF Award Nearly \$200,000 in Scholarships

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MEMBER NEWS

SUNY Optometry Awards More Than \$1 Million in Student Scholarships at Annual Scholarship Presentation



SUNY College of Optometry honored more than 70 students at its annual Scholarship Presentation, awarding over \$1 million in total scholarship support—including \$619,250 distributed during this year’s ceremony by the SUNY College of Optometry Foundation. This year’s program marked a milestone with the introduction of the Presidential Scholarship, one of the most significant student awards in the College’s history.

[Learn More...](#)

NECO’s 2025 Industry Collaborative: Exploring the Future of Optometric Education in the Age of AI



On November 3–4, 2025, NECO brought together more than 100 leaders from education, health care, and industry for its fifth annual Industry Collaborative—a two-day event examining how technology, innovation, and collaboration are reshaping the future of optometric education and patient care.

[Learn More...](#)

SCO's Dr. Reich Receives Award



Dr. Lewis Reich, Southern College of Optometry President, was named one of 2025's SPARK Awards.

[Learn More...](#)

Gift of Sight Week Delivers Free Exams and Glasses to Hundreds in Alabama



The 12th annual Gift of Sight Week brought vision care to 226 patients at Western Health Center, continuing a tradition of service to the community.

[Learn More...](#)



NEWS TO SHARE

News from AOA



[Learn More...](#)

Latinos en Optometry Highlights Glaucoma Awareness Month 2026; Urges Culturally Responsive Patient Engagement



As Glaucoma Awareness Month begins, the Cultural Responsiveness blog from Latinos en Optometry and VSP Vision calls attention to the critical role optometrists play in improving early detection, patient understanding, and long-term management of glaucoma—particularly within Hispanic/Latino communities that face elevated risk and persistent disparities in care.

[Learn More...](#)

Engaging with Your Audience on Social Media



Dr. Angelica Cifuentes shares her experiences in building a strong social media presence in the December *Cultural Responsiveness* blog.

[Learn More...](#)



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Colleges of Optometry**

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