Ophthalmic Medical Technician

Career Benefits

• Excellent job opportunities
• Long-term career advancement potential
• A career in advanced medical technology
• Flexible schedule in a professional health care work environment
• Exceptional pay and benefits

Career Outlook

• Employment of Medical Technicians in fields such as Ophthalmology ranks 3rd on the list of the 30 Fastest-Growing Occupations in the U.S.
• The aging population (65 or older) is projected to double by 2030, the need for Ophthalmic Medical Technicians will continue to increase.
• There is an estimated need for approximately an additional 3,500 Ophthalmic Medical Technicians in the U.S. and Canada.

Salary Range

Salaries vary depending on level of training, experience, level of JCAHPO certification, and location. (2011 Salary Study)
Starting Salaries = (entry/COA level)
$42,500
Overall Salaries = (intermediate/COT level)
$52,500
Upper Ranges = (advanced/COMT level)
$60,200

There is a Career for You IN SIGHT!

Discover Eye Careers

For more information about a career as an Ophthalmic Medical Technician visit:
www.discovereyecareers.org

About JCAHPO
The Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO®) is an international leader in providing certification and continuing education programs for ophthalmic medical technicians.

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What is an Ophthalmic Medical Technician?
An Ophthalmic Medical Technician is a person who works with an ophthalmologist (eye doctor) to provide patient care by performing many different eye-related clinical tasks. Their work provides the ophthalmologist with important information to help diagnose and treat patients.

What does an Ophthalmic Medical Technician do?
• Takes patient medical histories
• Instructs patients about medications, tests, and procedures
• Performs vision and diagnostic tests
• Assists with patient procedures
• Coordinates patient scheduling
• Supervises and trains other Ophthalmic Medical Technicians
• Performs office management duties

What kind of skills and qualifications do I need?
• High school diploma or equivalent
• Good problem solving skills
• Ability to learn new skills
• An interest in science and math
• Commitment to helping people

WHAT TYPE OF TRAINING WOULD I NEED TO COMPLETE?
You can enter the field two different ways.

1. ON-THE-JOB TRAINING
Most ophthalmic practices have their own on-the-job training and procedures for entry-level ophthalmic medical technicians who have no experience or education in the field.

2. ACCREDITED TRAINING PROGRAM
Accredited ophthalmic training programs are available in academic institutions ranging in length from 3-6 months, 2 years, and 4 years.

   To find a training program near you, visit: www.coa-omp.org

PLUS...INDEPENDENT STUDY
This is a convenient option for those who cannot attend an accredited training program. You can study from your own home on your own time. Visit www.jcahpo.org to learn more about the independent study program.

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