

# Training Program Schedule

The International Curriculum for Ophthalmic Assisting Technicians Schedule is designed to provide new programs with a recommended sequence of courses and hours required per content area.

The suggested sequence of courses to be taught to students is identified as Introduction to Ophthalmology, Basic Skills and Advanced Skills. Demonstration of attainment of knowledge and skills is required for advancement to the next level.

Certain topics are listed under Basic Skills and Advanced Skills. The Advanced courses are a continuum of the basic courses, and have greater depth and breadth of knowledge. The time breakdown is divided into "Lecture," "Hands-on (Lab)," and "Clinical."

- Lecture time is defined as formal instruction as an educational talk would be given to an audience.

- Hands-on time is referred as Lab time by some institutions. The definition of hands-on time is simulation of performing a skill. Students can perform tasks on a schematic eye if appropriate, on each other in a controlled environment with direct supervision of a qualified instructor, or on a computer simulation.
- Clinical time refers to supervised time in a clinical setting. Supervision can be by an ophthalmologist or qualified AOP. In this setting, the student sees patients and works towards competency attainment of their ophthalmic skills.

All durations are recommendations and may be adjusted as the program needs. It is recognized that lecture times can vary and that students may achieve skill competence at different rates.

## Training Program Recommended Schedule

Topic	Lecture	Recommended Duration: Hands-on Time (Labs)	Clinical Time
<b>A. Introduction to Ophthalmology</b>			
1. Clinic and Personnel Functions	2 hours	-	-
2. Medical Ethics, Regulatory and Legal Issues	2 hours	-	-
3. Communication Skills, Patient Education and Ophthalmic Counselling	2 hours	-	-
4. Ophthalmic Patient Services and Relations (Triage)	2 hours	-	-
5. Community Health Eye Care	2 hours	-	-
6. Safety	2 hours	-	-
7. Administrative Duties	2 hours	-	-
8. Medical Terminology	4 hours	-	-
9. General and Ocular Anatomy and Physiology	8 hours	-	-
10. Pharmacology	4 hours	-	-
11. Microbiology	4 hours	-	-
12. History Taking	2 hours	2 hours	16 hours
<b>B. Basic Skills</b>			
1. Vital Signs	1 hour	1 hour	8 hours
2. Visual Testing	2 hours	2 hours	16 hours
3. Pupillary Assessment	2 hours	2 hours	16 hours
4. Lensometry	2 hours	10 hours	76 hours
5. Keratometry	2 hours	10 hours	76 hours
6. Tonometry	2 hours	6 hours	44 hours
7. Supplementary Tests - Basic	4 hours	8 hours	60 hours
8. Clinical equipment and Supplies Maintenance	2 hours	2 hours	16 hours
9. Examination of the Eye and Face	2 hours	2 hours	16 hours
10. Clinical Optics	10 hours	-	-
11. Biometry	2 hours	8 hours	60 hours
12. Eye Diseases	12 hours	-	-
13. Systemic Diseases	6 hours	-	-
<b>C. Advanced Skills</b>			
1. Low Vision	3 hours	3 hours	24 hours
2. Supplementary Tests - Advanced	8 hours	10 hours	76 hours
3. Ophthalmic Imaging	8 hours	10 hours	76 hours
4. Surgical Procedures	4 hours	12 hours	90 hours
5. Refractometry, Retinoscopy, Refinement	8 hours	16 hours	120 hours
6. Ocular Motility	8 hours	16 hours	120 hours
7. Contact Lenses	4 hours	8 hours	60 hours
8. Supervision and Training Support	2 hours	-	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>130 hours</b>	<b>140 hours</b>	<b>970 hours</b>