

YOUR FINAL PROOF

Attention: Bh Circ Nie/pie
Ad Number: F65881
Description: Ectc
Ad Size: 6 x 10.5"
Ad Builder: Julie Beacham-Hooie
Insertions: 1

Code: 001300000
Revision No.: 2
Sales Rep: Blank #1
Rep Phone:
Rep Fax:
Date: Fri, May 23, 2008 - 9:30 AM

UPLOADED PDF

DATE

TIME

This is your FINAL proof. Please indicate all revisions on this proof and return to the Bradenton Herald. Please check with your Marketing Consultant for your deadline for proof return. Please note: revisions received after deadline will be made for the next available run date.

FOR PROOF PURPOSES ONLY - LOW RES

Client Approval OK As Is OK After Corrections Signature _____

Insertion Date **Publication**
 Thu, May 29, 2008 Local

Education Today / Career Tomorrow

BROUGHT TO YOU BY MANATEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE AND NEWSPAPERS IN EDUCATION



Optometric Assistant

Optometric assistants perform routine tasks in optometrists' offices. Their work enables optometrists to devote their time to patient care that requires specialized training.

Optometric assistants do clerical work, such as bookkeeping and scheduling appointments. They also help the optometrist during eye examinations. Optometric assistant duties are extremely diversified.

Optometrists give their patients eye

examinations for vision, color blindness, and eye pressure. When the tests are completed, an optometrist can prescribe the necessary eyeglasses for the patient. Optometric assistants often prepare patients for the tests.

Assistants may explain eye exercises to patients or teach them how to use contact lenses. In some offices, optometric assistants help people choose the frames for their glasses. When the eyeglasses are

made, optometric assistants adjust them for a proper fit. Some assistants work in laboratories that fill prescriptions for eyeglasses. Most optometric assistants work in private offices. Some work in health clinics or for government agencies. Others are employed by companies that make optical instruments.

Source:
www.careers.stateuniversity.com

Job Outlook Money Matters

The employment outlook is excellent through the year 2010.

Also, the growth of the older population will assure the need for qualified optometric assistants.

There are many opportunities for employments as an Optometric Assistant in a variety of settings working with an optometrist (OD), ophthalmologist (MD) or optician. An Optometric Assistant can join a private practice, an ophthalmology office, a commercial optical business or a health clinic.

Career: Optometric Assistant

Job Description: Obtains and records patient's history. Schedules appointments and performs bookkeeping. Prepares patient for vision examination. Instructs patient in care and use of glasses or contact lenses. Assists patient in frame selection. Manages business operations.

Salary: Average starting salary for Optometric Assistants is \$12.00 to \$14.00 per hour.

For more information on how to start your career as an Optometric Assistant, please contact:

Career Counselor Kathy Matthews
 (941) 752-8100 ext. 227
matthewk@manateeschools.net

Education Needed

Optometric assistants should have a high school diploma or its equivalent. Optometrists prefer applicants who are accurate and able to work well with delicate and breakable tools and materials.

There are also formal training programs for this work. Some technical schools, community colleges, and colleges of optometry offer one-year programs.

Training for optometric assistants generally includes secretarial and office skills as well as medical procedures.

Manual dexterity, a neat appearance, and tactfulness are valuable assets for success on the job.

The MTI Optometric Assisting program is a 1080 hour program (10 months) that includes hands-on clinical externship in local professional offices. Some of the areas of study include: Health Science Core, Ocular Anatomy and Physiology, Pharmacology, Ocular Diseases and Emergencies, Optics, Business Management, Legal & Ethical Responsibilities and Communication Skills.

Information Session for this Program will be held on:
Monday, June 9, 2008 at 10:00am
Wednesday, June 18, 2008 at 10:00 am
Wednesday, June 25, 2008 at 6:00pm



Optometrist
 "As President of the Manasota Optometric Society, I am very excited that Manatee Technical Institute is creating a program for training optometric assistants. Our area will truly benefit from this program. It is extremely valuable to our eye care practices." - Dr. Troy Bedinghaus

Optometric Assistant
 "I am new to the optometric field. I absolutely love my job as an Optometric Assistant. I also serve as the Director of Patient Relations. This job gives me a great sense of accomplishment. I love helping patients with their insurance and frame selections." - Amanda Sutor

Employer • Employee

THIS EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIP SPONSORED BY



Main Campus
 5603 34th Street West
 (941) 751-7900



East Campus
 5520 Lakewood Ranch Blvd.
 (941) 752-8100



www.nieamanatee.com

The Education Today/Career Tomorrow page is published every Thursday in The Bradenton Herald. Provided by Newspaper in Education Christine Fritch, (941) 748-0411 ext. 5464. E-mail: cfritch@bradenton.com and Julie Beacham-Hooie, Page Editor