



## Health/Health Careers

# Ophthalmic Assistant CHHO-6200

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This short-term program prepares students with the knowledge and skills necessary to become a valued member of the eye care team. Ophthalmic assistants work in hospital, clinic, or office settings under the supervision of a licensed ophthalmologist or optometrist. Students will learn the specific duties of the ophthalmic assistant, such as identifying common clinical eye disorders and ocular diseases, assisting in surgical procedures, understanding medications, and utilizing medical instruments. A two-week, 80-hour clinical experience will be held immediately following the classroom portion to practice and apply hands-on experience at an eye care clinic.

Ready to learn more? Complete our information form at [www.kirkwood.edu/ce\\_certificatesform](http://www.kirkwood.edu/ce_certificatesform) or contact a student advisor today at [ceadvising@kirkwood.edu](mailto:ceadvising@kirkwood.edu) or 319-398-5529.

### **Course List:**

NA

### **Delivery Method:**

Classroom, Clinical

### **Length of Program and CEU Credits:**

140 hours, 16.8 CEUs

### **Entrance Requirements/Prerequisites:**

Prospective students must be 18 years of age or older, have evidence of high school diploma or equivalent, and score a 245 or higher on the Accuplacer Next Generation Reading Placement Exam. Additional clinical compliance including, but not limited to, a background check is required.

### **Other Items to Know About this Course:**

The following textbook will need to be purchased separately: "The Ophthalmic Assistant" (Stein, Stein & Freeman, ISBN-13: 978-0323394772).

### **Program Completion Requirements:**

This is a pass/fail certificate. Student performance will be evaluated by a combination of attendance and class participation, exam and quiz scores, and satisfactory completion of the clinical experience.

### **Industry Credentials Earned:**

Completion of this course, plus 6 months to 1 year of practical work experience, will qualify the student to sit for an industry-recognized national certification exam.

### **Pathway to Credit Program:**

None

### **Tuition Assistance:**

Yes

**Course Objectives:**

- Understand and describe the ophthalmic assistant's job responsibilities, professional training, and employment opportunities.
- Demonstrate knowledge of basic medical fundamentals, including related medical terminology.
- Conduct testing protocols for an eye exam and/or procedure.
- Utilize common medical instruments found in an eye clinic.
- Identify common eye disorders and surgical procedures.

**Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will obtain the skills needed to work as an ophthalmic assistant in a hospital, clinic, or office setting. Students will learn the appropriate medical terminology related to the ocular system and identify common eye disorders and ocular diseases. Additional applicable skills include utilizing the proper medical instruments to conduct eye exams and diagnostic tests. Completing this course will also prepare those who are planning on taking the national certification exam.

**Related Information:**

NA

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**Continuing Education**  
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