



WORK INSPIRATION – Eye Health and Eye Care Careers

There are many interesting careers in eye care and eye health with entry at all levels. Some of these roles will happen in hospitals and health care settings and some could occur on the high street. Whatever your background and interests, you can take your next steps into an eyecare career. Explore some of the options below.

Which 'eye' career to choose

- **British and Irish Orthoptic Society** - find out what the difference is between an [Orthoptist](#), [Optometrist](#) or [Ophthalmologist](#) ?
- **The College of Optometrists** have published [this podcast 'Orthoptics and Optometry – Spot the Difference'](#)
- **General Optical Council** has advice on what [the differences are between an optometrist or dispensing optician](#)
- **Careers in Eyecare** [showcases many interesting careers in eyecare and eye wear](#), with entry at all levels. Whatever your background and interests, you can take your next steps into an [eyecare career](#)

Optician

- **Association of British Dispensing Opticians** is the professional body working for dispensing opticians and advancing the profession in the

UK and worldwide. Read about the [role of dispensing opticians and contact lens optician](#)

- **UCAS** has subject guides on studying the following course: [Dispensing Optician](#)
- **Prospects** has a comprehensive job profile section which gives you information on careers as a [Dispensing Optician](#)

Optometrist

- **National Careers Service** has information on careers as an [Optometrist](#)
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- **NHS Health Careers** website has a profile of the [optometrist career](#)
- **Prospects** has a comprehensive job profile section which gives you information on careers as an [Optometrist](#)
- **Optometry Today (OT)** has an article on a Cardiff University student on her journey from a [Work Experience student to Optometry student](#)

Work Inspiration
An initiative of



The Responsible
Business Network
Northern Ireland

Orthoptist

- **NHS Health Careers** website - what is an [orthoptist](#) and information on entry requirements and training. Also there is a careers case study from an [orthoptist](#)
- **UCAS** has subject guides on studying the following course: [Orthoptics](#)
- **National Careers Service** has information on careers as an [Orthoptist](#)
- **Prospects** has a comprehensive job profile section which gives you information on careers as an [Orthoptist](#)

Ophthalmologist

- **Ophthalmologists** are medically trained doctors who care for patients with eye conditions – find out all this career on the [NHS Health Careers website](#). Have a read of this real life story from [Kavita](#) who works in this field.
- **Prospects** has a comprehensive job profile section which gives you information on careers as an [Ophthalmologist](#)
- **Specsavers** has a section their website signposting the [Routes into Optometry](#), with information on GCSE/A level subjects along with a list of universities that offer the relevant course

University Information

- **The UniGuide** has a list of all the [courses currently on offer in optometry](#)
- **The UniGuide** has a list of all the [courses currently on offer in orthoptics](#)
- **UCAS** have a careers guide and list of universities where you can study [orthoptics](#)
- **UCAS** have a careers guide and list of universities where you can study [optometry](#)
- **General Optical Council** has advice on the [two professions which you can train for – optometry or dispensing optics and where](#)
- **Ulster University** offers an Optometry degree with Honours at their Coleraine Campus – find out all about the entry requirements and course content [here](#)

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To find out more about our Work Inspiration programme, please contact [Joanne Mehaffy](#) or visit www.workinspiration-ni.com