Ophthalmic Medical Technology Program Application
Fall 2015
DEADLINE: July 1, 2015

Program Information

About the Program
Ophthalmology derives its name from the Greek "ophthalmos," meaning, "the science of eyes." It is the field of medicine that specializes in the medical and surgical treatment of eye diseases. The Ophthalmic Medical Technologist assists the M. D. Ophthalmologist, eye physician and surgeon, in the evaluation of vision and treatment of patients with disorders of the eyes. Palm Beach State College is one of a limited number of institutions that offers an Associate in Science degree in Ophthalmic Medical Technology (OMT). The program's college-level, competency-based, curriculum consists of classroom experience combined with hands-on specialized training. Students develop technical proficiency through extensive clinical internships, including training in our own state-of-the-art medical clinic, under the supervision of a Board-Certified and licensed M. D. Ophthalmologist, combined with practical experience in local ophthalmic practices, clinics, and hospitals. Upon successful completion of the program, standardized examination, and clinical internships, graduates will be qualified to be certified by the Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology as a Certified Ophthalmic Assistant (COA®), Certified Ophthalmic Technician (COT®) or Certified Ophthalmic Medical Technologist (COMT®). The program accepts its entering class through a limited access, highly competitive, admissions process during the spring of each year for admission to the following fall term. Detailed information about the program, faculty, job outlook, schedule of course rotations, the admission process, and ophthalmic careers is available at: www.PalmBeachState.edu/Programs/OMT.

Admission Requirements for Selection
The following are required for eligibility in the selection pool. Meeting criteria for selection does not guarantee admission to the Ophthalmic program. Final selection will be based on the applicant pool. If a student is selected and does not enter the program, or is not selected, the student must reapply and is not guaranteed acceptance in any subsequent selection process. PLEASE NOTE: All communication regarding your admissions status will be sent to your Palm Beach State student e-mail account.

All documentation must be on file at the Palm Beach State College Admissions Office by the application deadline of July 1, 2015.

APPLICATION

First-time Palm Beach State College Students: Submit a completed Palm Beach State College general credit application at www.PalmBeachState.edu/Admissions/Admissions-Applications.aspx and pay the appropriate fee by the deadline date. This one-time fee is $30 for U.S. citizens, $75 (U.S. currency) for international students and is non-refundable. Be sure to insert your current and active e-mail address where requested; be specific regarding your program of study. Once submitted, a confirmation e-mail with conditions of admission will be sent to the e-mail address provided in the college application. Print the confirmation page and follow the instructions within. Applicants must also submit the program application contained in this packet and submit to the Admissions Office.

Current or former Palm Beach State College Students: In addition to the Palm Beach State College general application, the applicant must also submit the OMT program application located on the Palm Beach State
website. There is a $20 non-refundable processing fee due with each OMT Program application. Submit a paid receipt for the processing fee along with a Palm Beach State College OMT Program Application to the Admissions Office.

ACADEMIC HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR GED

**Official high school transcript** (transcripts are considered official if sent directly to Palm Beach State College Admissions Office from the previous institution or be hand delivered in a sealed envelope sealed by the issuing institution) showing proof of a standard high school diploma, GED, or validated foreign equivalent. All applicants – new, current, and college transfer students must have their official high school or GED transcript on file at Palm Beach State College. You may download the transcript request form and request scores for the Florida GED from our website at www.palmbeachstate.edu/admissions/Transcript-Request.aspx

**COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS**

**Official college transcripts** (transcripts are considered official if sent directly to Palm Beach State College from the previous institution or be hand delivered in a sealed envelope sealed by the issuing institution) from ALL post-secondary institutions attended must be submitted. **Official transcripts are to be mailed directly from the previous institution to the Palm Beach State College Admissions Office.** You may download the transcript request form from our website at www.palmbeachstate.edu/admissions/Transcript-Request.aspx. If you have attended college, we still require proof of a standard high school diploma, GED or validated foreign equivalent. Commercial evaluation of out of country transcripts is required and must be sent from an approved evaluating institution directly to Palm Beach State College. Information for approved evaluators available at www.palmbeachstate.edu/admissions/Transcript-Request.aspx.

**** PLEASE NOTE: ALL COURSE RE-EVALUATION APPEALS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE APPLICATION DEADLINE.

**COLLEGE PLACEMENT**

All applicants must submit placement test scores (taken within two years prior to admission) which meet minimum requirements for entrance into college level English, reading and mathematics courses, or required remedial work (including any and all necessary college preparatory courses). Successful test scores will allow entry to the applicant pool Transfer applicants with successful completion (C or higher) of a minimum of three college credits each in mathematics and English courses may be used in lieu of placement scores for eligibility consideration for selection into the program.

**GRADE POINT AVERAGE**

Students must have an overall cumulative G.P.A. of 2.6 or higher to qualify for admissions into the Ophthalmic Program.

**MANDATORY OPEN HOUSE INFORMATION SESSION**

Prospective applicants usually have lots of questions regarding acceptance into a new program. After viewing all of the online resources available at: www.PalmBeachState.edu/Programs/OMT, the applicant is required to attend one of our Open House Information Sessions. These sessions are conveniently held from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at the Palm Beach Gardens Campus, BioScience Technology Complex, Room SC152. This is your opportunity to get to meet fellow students, faculty, and staff, and to view the facility. No appointment is necessary. This year’s schedule is as follows:

- Thursday, March 5, 2015
- Thursday, April 5, 2015
- Thursday, April 30, 2015
- Thursday, June 4, 2015
CLINICAL OBSERVATION

Clinical observation allows the student to experience first-hand how an ophthalmic practice operates and to follow an Ophthalmic Medical Technician during the course of his or her workday. This is your opportunity to ask questions of the practitioners as well as of yourself, to better enable an applicant to evaluate if this career path is right for you. Each prospective student must plan on spending a minimum of four (4) hours in an approved Medical Ophthalmic Practice following attendance at the mandatory OPEN HOUSE counseling session. The hosting practice will complete the documentation of attendance form that will be distributed to attendees at that meeting. Information on scheduling clinical observations along with a list of approved sites will be provided at the open house information session.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT

The following courses must be completed with a “C” or better by the deadline date.

- BSC2085 Anatomy & Physiology I
- BSC2085L Anatomy & Physiology Lab
- BSC2086 Anatomy & Physiology II
- BSC2086L Anatomy & Physiology Lab II
- MCB2010 Microbiology
- MCB2010L Microbiology Lab

ACCEPTANCE/REGISTRATION

Applicants who are selected will be notified approximately two weeks after the deadline date. The acceptance notice will include registration information, allowing approximately one week for registration completion. If an applicant is selected and does not complete the registration process, the applicant must reapply and is not guaranteed acceptance in any subsequent selection process. The acceptance notice will include: (1) Registration information (2) Criminal Background Check – (Includes Social Security number verification). (3) Drug screen.

After admission, the above documentation must be on file with the OMT’s Program Office. All students are conditionally accepted and will be required to obtain criminal background checks and drug screenings (at their own expense). Further information will be provided when admitted into the OMT Program. Failure to provide such documentation will result in termination of application.
Once all general admission criteria have been satisfied, a point system is utilized for selection of students to the program. In the event of a tie, a lottery selection system will be used.

### COLLEGE DEGREE
(Associate degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution) .................................................. 1

### CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE
(2.60 or higher – Points awarded equal to the cumulative G.P.A) .................................................. 2.60 – 4.00

### CURRENT/PREVIOUS PALM BEACH STATE COLLEGE STUDENT .......................................................... 1

### GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES - Completed with a “C” or higher by the application deadline.
- **ENC1101** - English Composition I (3 credits) ................................................................. 1
- **SPC1017** - Fundamentals of Speech Communication (3 credits) ........................................... 1
- **MAC** - Any State Course Numbering ID beginning with MAC (3 credits) ......................... 1
- Humanities Elective (3 credits- Refer to General Education Requirements Area 2) ............... 1
- **PSY2012** - Introduction to Psychology (3 credits) ............................................................. 1

### HEALTHCARE RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE .............................................................................. 1

Please Note: A letter from your employer on company letterhead stating your position and dates of employment must be submitted along with the application. Employment must be within the past three years for a minimum of three consecutive months.
1. NAME ______________________________________    ___________________________________   __________________    _________  
   LAST       FIRST       MIDDLE       SUFFIX

2. PALM BEACH STATE COLLEGE STUDENT ID: __________ - __________ - __________

3. E-MAIL ADDRESS __________________________________________ @ ___________________________.____

4. If any of your transcripts, test scores, or records are listed under any names other than those above, enter those names here:

____________________________________________________________________________________________

5. LOCAL ADDRESS:  __________________________________________________________ Apt. __________
   NUMBER AND STREET ADDRESS
   City __________________________ COUNTY (or PROVINCE) __________________________
   State ___________    Zip Code ___________ - ______

6. HOME TELEPHONE: (          ) ______-_____________ MOBILE PHONE: (          ) ______-_____________
   WORK PHONE: (          ) ______-_____________
   8. DATE OF BIRTH: ______/_______/_______

7. HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE? ☐Yes ☐No or ☐GED? ☐Yes ☐No

8. COLLEGE or UNIVERSITY EDUCATION
   List all postsecondary colleges or universities in which you have enrolled, even if you did not graduate.
   
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME OF INSTITUTION</th>
<th>CITY/STATE</th>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>DEGREE</th>
<th>CREDIT</th>
</tr>
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9. ARE YOU CURRENTLY ENROLLED at Palm Beach State College? ☐Yes ☐No

10. ARE YOU CURRENTLY ENROLLED AT ANOTHER COLLEGE? ☐Yes ☐No Please List: ___________________________________

11. ARE YOU A FLORIDA RESIDENT? ☐Yes ☐No

   I understand that falsification or omission of any information may result in my dismissal or rejection from the College.

   __________________________ __________________________
   SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT DATE