



“The field of ophthalmic assisting is a progressive educational process that allows people to work in an important and stimulating environment. Helping people see better and preserving eye sight are very gratifying. Within this career path, people can develop increasing levels of certification, without significant institution-based training.”

Scott Spector, M.D.

OPHTHALMIC ASSISTANT COURSES

Ophthalmic Assistant I

The first course in a two-semester sequence to prepare students for careers as ophthalmic assistants. The role and responsibilities of the ophthalmic assistant will be introduced. Students will develop entry-level knowledge and skills in office and administrative procedures; patient communication and education; ethical, legal and regulatory aspects of patient care; practices essential for patient and personal safety; medical terminology; basic general and ocular anatomy and physiology; ocular microbiology; ocular pharmacology; and introduction to major disorders of the eye. Students will develop entry-level skills in triage; history taking; examination of the eye; as well as use and maintenance of relevant clinical equipment, instruments and supplies. Learning activities will include attending lectures; active learning with case histories; participating in hands-on learning; observing in an ophthalmology office; and out-of-class assignments.

Ophthalmic Assistant II

This course is a continuation of the development of the knowledge and skills acquired in Ophthalmic Assistant I. Skills relevant to assist an ophthalmologist in the diagnosis and care of patients will be taught in context of the major disorders of the eye. Students will enhance their patient care, education, communication and use of equipment as they learn more details about disorders of the eye. Learning activities will include attending lectures; active learning with case histories; participating in hands-on learning; observing in an ophthalmology office; and out-of-class assignments.



HOUSATONIC
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

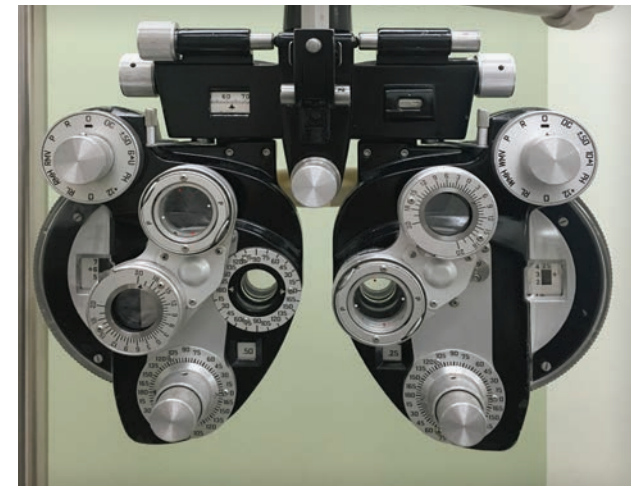
900 Lafayette Boulevard, Bridgeport, CT 06604

www.Housatonic.edu



Ophthalmic Assistant Program

Continuing and Professional Education Offering



Stay Close. Go Far.
www.Housatonic.edu



ATTEND AN INFO SESSION

August 23, 10am-11am

August 29, 6pm-7pm

Sessions will be held in Beacon Hall, room 116

Sign up for an info session at:
Housatonic.edu/OA

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Ophthalmic Assisting Program prepares students to become part of the eye-care team, assisting doctors who specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the eye (ophthalmologists).

This program follows the guidelines of the Commission on Accreditation of Ophthalmic Medical Programs (CoA-OMP) and the International Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (IJCAHPO). The application process for accreditation by COA-OMP will continue during the first year of the program.

Upon completion of the two courses in the program, as well as work under the supervision of an ophthalmologist, students will be eligible to take the certification examination administered by IJCAHPO. A passing score on this examination will grant the student status as a Certified Ophthalmic Assistant. This nationally and internationally recognized certification status communicates competency and initiative to employers.

ABOUT OPHTHALMIC ASSISTING

Working under the supervision of an ophthalmologist, ophthalmic assistants may take patient histories; provide patient support services such as scheduling and patient education; administer tests and evaluations; take eye measurements; maintain instruments and perform a variety of clinical tasks. While most ophthalmic assistants work in ophthalmology practices, jobs are also available in clinics, hospitals, universities and, industry. Ophthalmic assistant positions may be full-time or part-time.

Visit www.Housatonic.edu/OA for wage information.

Housatonic Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious, creed, age, gender, gender identity or expression, national origin, marital status, ancestry, present or past history of mental disorder, learning disability or physical disability, political belief, veteran status, sexual orientation, genetic information or criminal record in its programs and activities.

HCC reserves the right to update program details as needed.

PROGRAM DETAILS

Students in the Ophthalmic Assistant Program take two courses, Ophthalmic Assistant I and Ophthalmic Assistant II. Each 14-week course meets one evening per week from 6:00pm - 9:30pm and one Saturday a month in an ophthalmologist's office. This program guides students in developing the specialized knowledge and skills necessary for their careers as ophthalmic assistants.

After completion of these courses students must work in an Ophthalmology practice to be able to take the certification examination. Students are expected to be paid by the practice for working and learning during this period.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply, visit: www.Housatonic.edu/OA

Applicants must also provide:

1. Official transcripts (high school and/or college)
2. One professional employer or instructor letter of reference, sealed, signed and mailed to: 900 Lafayette Boulevard, Bridgeport, CT 06604, Attention: Rosalee Creighton-Fuller.
3. A 250 to 500 word essay. Explain why you want to be an ophthalmic assistant and describe two of your characteristics or experiences that would support your application. Upload your essay along with your application by visiting Housatonic.edu/OA.

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

Rosalee Creighton-Fuller
 900 Lafayette Boulevard
 Bridgeport, CT 06604
 203.332.8525
RCreighton-fuller@housatonic.edu

