



Information for Foreign Students:

I am a foreign student who would like to obtain my Optometry degree in the United States. Is there anything I need to consider before applying?

If you are an International student applicant, be advised there are conditions that may affect your decision to proceed with the admissions process:

- The Doctor of Optometry degree is not recognized outside of the U.S. and Canada. If you are pursuing an Optometric education with the intent of practicing outside the U.S. or Canada, your scope of practice will be limited.
- International students are not eligible for federal financial aid. There is limited private financial aid funding available. A U.S. co-signer would be required.
- An accepted International student must provide financial documentation that sufficient US\$ funds are available for the cost of a 4 year Doctor of Optometry program. Contact ODfinancialaid@ketchum.edu for more information.
- An I-20 Form will be issued for students providing documentation of sufficient funds. The I-20 Form is a Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status. Depending upon Country of Citizenship an International student may be required to obtain a student Visa at a US Embassy or Consulate office. Canadian students do NOT need to obtain a student Visa.
- Students with F-1 Student status may apply for Optional Practical Training. OPT allows the student to practice in the U.S. for one year following their Graduation. Full-time work hours are required.

Should any of these conditions affect your decision to proceed with the admissions process, please notify the Office of Admissions at ODadmissions@ketchum.edu

Revised 07/18/19 BB