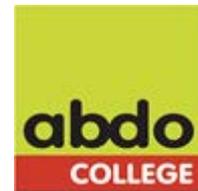


Practical experience in Low Vision Dispensing



Undertaking the Low Vision Honours course will instruct you in the theory which underpins low vision assessment and also help to prepare you for the low vision practical examinations.

It is excellent experience if you are able to sit in on a hospital low vision clinic. However, it is unlikely that you will be able to build up your own case records this way unless you are a hospital employee since records of patients assessed by a different practitioner are not acceptable for the examinations even if you observed the assessment.

If you do not have the opportunity to undertake sufficient low vision work at your own practice you may be able to do so at a local Association for the Blind centre or other support group for low vision patients. As a registered dispensing optician you are entitled to supply spectacles and low vision aids without supervision and you can gain valuable experience in this way. Alternatively, a local optometrist or dispensing optician who runs their own low vision clinic may be prepared to offer you experience and, ultimately, allow you to see your own patients, so you may be able to build up your case records for the examinations through this route.

For the practical examinations you will be required to produce fifteen case records showing a mix of ages and low vision conditions and be able to discuss and justify all decisions made for these records.

The records submitted must be original records or photocopies of the original records.

The records must be anonymised.

You will be undertaking course work that will help you, along with the feedback from your tutor, devise a suitable record that you may wish to use for your submissions.

If you are unable to gather enough case records in the year you take the course and sit the theory papers, it is acceptable for you to take the practical examinations the following year.

If you decide to take the honours course I congratulate you on choosing such a rewarding specialism and wish you every success.

Jennifer Brower
Chairman, ABDO Low Vision Committee
ABDO Low Vision Examiner