

Fellowship in Ocular Disease and Optometric Surgery

DeSoto Parish Regional Eye Institute and Surgery Center

DeSoto Parish Regional Eye Institute and Surgery Center
110 Main Street
Logansport, LA 71049



Program Coordinators: Dennis Golden, OD & Kyle Sandberg, OD, FAAO

GENERAL INFORMATION

Program Mission

The mission of the Fellowship Program in Ocular Disease and Laser Surgery at the DeSoto Parish Regional Eye Institute and Surgery Center is to yield expert clinicians in the field of ocular disease and minor surgery through intensive hands-on clinical experience and concentrated disease exposure. The fellow will gain mastery of diagnosis and treatment of ocular disease conditions, with an emphasis on performing laser procedures and minor surgical procedures of the eyelids and ocular adnexa that fall within the expanding scope of optometric practice.

Program Goals

1. Elevate the fellow's clinical skills in the diagnosis and treatment of ocular disease
2. Attain proficiency in performing YAG capsulotomy.
3. Attain proficiency in performing laser iridotomy
4. Attain proficiency in performing laser trabeculoplasty
5. Attain proficiency in performing minor surgical procedures of the eyelids and periorbital region, including excision of dermatologic lesions and the incision and curettage of chalazia
6. Attain proficiency in performing subcutaneous and subconjunctival injection of medication into periocular tissue
7. Provide the fellow with scholarly, didactic and teaching experience.

Program Details

Program Length	12 months (53 weeks)
Start Date	July 1
Positions	1
Compensation	\$50,000
Hours Per Week	40 hrs
Accreditation Status	Not Accredited
Application Deadline	April 1
ORMatch Matching Service	No

Program Description

This fellowship program is designed to provide extensive hands-on training in performing laser procedures and minor surgical procedures of the lids and adnexa that fall within the expanding scope of practice of optometry. The fellowship is based in an optometric surgery center in rural Louisiana, approximately 50 miles from Shreveport – the nearest large city. The fellowship is a full-time, formal, supervised program consisting of direct patient care, didactic education, and precepting of externs.

Educational Opportunities

The fellow will engage in direct supervised patient care experiences at the DeSoto Parish Regional Eye Institute and Surgery Center. This optometric surgery center accepts patients on referral from regional private optometric practices. The fellow will care for a large number of patients with ocular disease conditions and will be responsible for performing laser and minor surgical procedures as indicated. In addition, the fellow will have teaching responsibilities related to the optometry externs that rotate through the practice from the Rosenberg School of Optometry and the University of Houston College of Optometry.

Certificate of Completion

A certificate of completion will be awarded to the fellow upon satisfactory completion of program requirements. The completion requirements of the program are:

- Successful completion of all fellowship program goals and objectives
- Completed one paper of publishable quality (i.e. research paper, literature review, case report)
- Deliver one presentation on an optometric topic
- Submission of all fellowship evaluation forms and activity logs
- Successful completion of NBEO Part 1, Part 2, and Part 3

FELLOWSHIP EXPERIENCE

Ocular Disease Diagnosis and Management

The fellow will spend approximately 50% of their time providing care to patients at the DeSoto Parish Regional Eye Institute and Surgery Center. Most patients seen at this clinic are referred from local practitioners for laser surgery. There is a high prevalence of ocular disease in this rural Louisiana locale. The fellow will be responsible for the diagnosis and management of patients referred to the clinic, and will perform laser and minor surgical procedures as indicated. Approximately 50% of the fellow's time will be spent in the optometric practice of Dr. Dennis Golden in Carthage, Texas. This full scope optometric practice will offer the fellow a wide variety of ocular disease diagnosis, treatment and management cases and represents a significant source of surgical referrals for the DeSoto Parish Regional Eye Institute and Surgery Center.

Surgical Procedures

Most patients presenting to the DeSoto Parish Regional Eye Institute and Surgery Center are seen for laser surgery or minor lid surgeries. Laser procedures performed at the clinic include capsulotomy, iridotomy and trabeculectomy. YAG and SLT lasers are located on site. Minor surgical procedures may

include lesion excision from the lids and adnexa, chalazion incision and curettage and entropion/extropion surgical treatment. Fellows will acquire extensive experience in performing these procedures, and in the pre-operative and post-operative care of these patients.

Teaching and Scholarly Activities

The fellow will participate in the training of externs that rotate through the clinic. This will include overseeing the pre-operative evaluations performed by externs, supervising the surgical procedures that they perform, and managing the post-operative care that they deliver. The fellow is required to write at least one paper of publishable quality by the end of the fellowship. The fellow is required to make one presentation on an optometric topic. This may take any of several possible forms, including a seminar, continuing education lecture, guest lecture in an optometry course, or a paper or poster presentation at an academic meeting. Fellows may participate in journal club, grand rounds, and seminar programs at the Rosenberg School of Optometry.

Employment Benefits

The resident receives employment benefits as an employee of the DeSoto Parish Regional Eye Institute and Surgery Center.

Housing and Utilities	Provided at no charge to the fellow
Health Insurance	Provided at no charge to the fellow
Paid Holidays	Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Holiday, Christmas Holiday, New Year’s Holiday
Continuing Education Leave	5 days paid leave
Paid Time Off	10 days paid annual leave
Sick Leave	5 days paid sick leave
Liability Insurance	Provided at no charge to the fellow

In addition, fellows are eligible for a \$500 travel stipend from the Rosenberg School of Optometry to help defray the cost of attending a national optometric conference during the course of the fellowship program.

Fellows are able to attend continuing education sponsored by the Rosenberg School of Optometry at no charge for credit hours.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The Fellowship Program does not participate in ORMatch. It is therefore necessary to file an application directly with the fellowship program coordinator. Copies of the application form and more information can be obtained by contacting the residency program coordinator.

Selection Procedure

- The program coordinator and faculty review application materials and invite qualified applicants to an on-site interview. Candidates unable to travel to the site may be invited to interview by telephone.
- The program coordinator and faculty select the most promising candidates based upon their application portfolios and interview performance, and submit these candidates to the Director of Residency and Fellowship Programs at the Rosenberg School of Optometry for review
- The program coordinator offers the fellowship position to the most promising candidates, in turn, until the position has been filled
- Upon acceptance of the offer, the candidate is asked to sign a letter of intent to enroll in the fellowship program.

Eligibility Criteria

1. Candidates must earn the degree of Doctor of Optometry from a school or college of optometry accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education prior to the starting date of the fellowship.
2. Successful completion of NBEO examinations.
3. Candidates must be eligible to be licensed as a surgical optometrist in the State of Louisiana.
4. The fellow will be selected from among candidates of whom if hired, can present evidence of legal right to live and work in the United States.

Non-discrimination

The DeSoto Parish Regional Eye Institute and Surgery Center Fellowship Program provides equal educational opportunity regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, age, or sex.

CALL OR EMAIL TODAY

For additional information about this fellowship opportunity, please contact:

Kyle Sandberg, OD, FAAO
Fellowship Program Coordinator
Rosenberg School of Optometry
9725 Datapoint Drive
San Antonio, Texas 78229
210.283.6876
ksandber@uiwtx.edu