

**SUNY Upstate Medical University**  
**Ocular Disease/Primary Care Optometry Residency**  
**Program Curriculum**  
**Academic Year 2025-2026**

The Ocular Disease/Primary Care Optometry Residency at SUNY Upstate is a full-time, 52-week residency program, beginning on July 1st and ending on June 30th of each residency year. The focus of the program consists of clinical care, didactic education and scholarly activity.

**Typical Weekly Schedule:**

- Clinic hours are 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday to Thursday including a lunch break. On Fridays the resident may have didactic/educational activities through the SUNY Friday programs.
- Resident will spend 80-85% of their week in clinic providing direct patient care under the supervision of an optometrist or ophthalmologist, with increasing level of independence as appropriate throughout the year.
- The resident should have minimum number of 1400 diverse patient encounters by the end of the residency year. Focus will be on comprehensive eye care, and remaining time will be providing urgent patient exams.

**Clinical Curriculum:**

Residents will participate 1-2 days a week in ophthalmology subspecialty clinics including:

Glaucoma  
Uveitis  
Oculoplastics  
Retina  
Pediatric

The rest of the days will be dedicated in primary care

**Didactic Curriculum:**

Includes Friday Programs with SUNY Optometry, SUNY Upstate Grand Rounds on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, and other didactic opportunities that may include local optometry society meetings, grand rounds, and American Academy of Optometry meeting.

Interdisciplinary activities will be held once a month on a Thursday afternoon. The resident will engage in case report presentations during this time. Other activities will include lecture presentations, as well as required readings which will be provided to resident to be completed by the end of the academic year.

*SUNY College of Optometry Friday Program*

Core Curriculum (required for all residents)

Orientation  
Workshop on Public Speaking  
Writing Workshop  
Practice Management Workshop  
Majors and Minors Presentations  
Grand Rounds/Lectures

**Scholarly Activity:**

- Minor Presentation (20 minutes)
- Major Presentation (50 minutes equivalent 1 hour COPE approved lecture) through our SUNY affiliate
- Write a publishable quality paper
- Submit a poster application for a nationally recognized conference.
- SUNY “Friday Programs” are a mix of remote learning and in person events. It is expected that the Resident will travel to New York City for mandatory in person events.