**Optical dispensing programs and on-line courses**

1. Douglas College (David Lam campus, Coquitlam, BC): This college offers a 2-year, 3 day-a-week course leading to a diploma in optical dispensing, which prepares the student for eyeglasses and contact lens dispensing, plus sight-testing. For more information, go to: <http://www.douglascollege.ca/programs-courses/faculties/science-technology/dispensing-optician>
2. Georgian College (Barrie, ON): This course is a two-year full-time English-language co-op course (4 semesters and two work terms), leading to an optical dispensing diploma which prepares the student for dispensing eyeglasses, contact lenses and low vision devices. For more information, go to: <http://www.georgiancollege.ca/academics/full-time-programs/opticianry-co-op-opti/>
3. New Brunswick Community College (NBCC), Moncton): The requirements for this diploma program may be achieved within two academic years of full-time study. Graduates are equipped with essential knowledge and skills to fit clients with prescription eyeglasses or contact lenses, assist clients in the selection of eyeglass frames, arrange for the production of eyeglasses or contact lenses and mount lenses in eyeglass frames. For more information, go to: <https://nbcc.ca/programs-courses/program-details?baseCurriculumId=432b2120-f91d-404c-96e7-044e3990f792>
4. Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT): For students in Alberta, the course is offered directly at NAIT. For students elsewhere in Canada, the course is offered **on-line** and distributed by the Opticians Association of Canada (OAC) – in either English or French. This course is a two-year online theory course, combined with 4 practicum levels, and is only available to those already working in an optical dispensary. Successful students receive a diploma in eyeglass dispensing and may go on to a one-year program for contact lenses. For more information, go to: <http://www.nait.ca/program_home_89363.htm>
5. Seneca College of Applied Arts and Technology (Newnham Campus, Toronto, ON): This college offers a course similar to Georgian College’s, it is a full-time, two-year co-op course, leading to an optical dispensing diploma. For more information, go to: <http://www.senecacollege.ca/fulltime/OPTC.html>

Seneca College also offers a four-year part time course that can be taking during the evenings and weekends. For more information, go to: <http://www.senecacollege.ca/ce/community/health-care/opticianry-diploma.html>

1. Stenberg College (Surrey College): offers a 55-week program resulting in a diploma in dispensing eyeglasses and contact lenses and automated refraction. For more information, go to: <http://www.stenbergcollege.com/programs/healthcare/dispensing-optician/>

In addition to the accredited courses listed above, there are also three French-language programs available in the province of Quebec:

1. College Edouard Montpetit (Longeuil Campus): For information, go to: <http://www.college-em.qc.ca/campus-de-longueuil/programmes-et-admission/cours-formation-technique-collegial-soins-infirmiers-et-autres/160a0-techniques-dortheses-visuelles>
2. College St. Francois Xavier Garneau (Quebec City): For information, go to: <http://www.cegep-fxg.qc.ca/fr/programmes-etudes/programmes-techniques/techniques-ortheses-visuelles.php>
3. Cégep Régional de Lanaudière (L’Assomption): For information, go to : <http://www.cegep-lanaudiere.qc.ca/lassomption/programmes/techniques-dortheses-visuelles>
4. La Cité (Ottawa): For Information, go to: <https://www.collegelacite.ca/programmes/51704.html>