



## EDUCATION WITH VISION

Ophthalmic dispensing is a growing industry that serves an extensive retail network and involves the fitting and supplying of eyeglasses and contact lenses. The skillful preparation and fitting of corrective lenses is vitally important to the customer's health, and therefore, people entering this field require rigorous training. The optical sciences industry is retail-oriented, requiring practitioners to work and communicate well with the public.

NAIT is a leader in delivering Optical Sciences educational programs around the world. NAIT is Canada's largest technical institute, accommodating over 85,000 full-time and part-time students. Well-established and operating in 23 countries, NAIT is a leader in technology-based education and has over 100,000 alumni worldwide.

### NEW TO THE INDUSTRY?

- Train as a healthcare professional
- Earn a strong entry level salary
- Gain rapid advancement within industry
- Work while learning
- Access to education is convenient and flexible

### ALREADY EXPERIENCED IN THE INDUSTRY?

- Apply your ABO or NCLE Certification to your first year of the Eyeglasses Diploma Program or the Advanced Practice Contact Lens Program
- Formal educational credentialing
- Guaranteed to acquire new skills
- Become better in your current practice
- Access is convenient and flexible
- Continue to work while you learn

### NAIT OPTICAL SCIENCES PROGRAM OFFICE

PH 780.418.2765 or 1.888.491.3130  
EMAIL [optical@nait.ca](mailto:optical@nait.ca)

### NEBRASKA SOCIETY OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS (NSDO)

829 S. 183 Street, Elkhorn, NE 68022  
PH 402.330.4131 (ext. 3) or 402.552.2811  
[www.nsdo.org](http://www.nsdo.org)

### PENNSYLVANIA CERTIFIED OPTICIANS ASSOCIATION (PCOA)

PO Box 168 West Milford, NJ 07480  
PH 862.228.4262 FAX 973.728.0751  
[www.paoptician.org](http://www.paoptician.org)

### REGISTERED OPTICIANS ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS (ROATX)

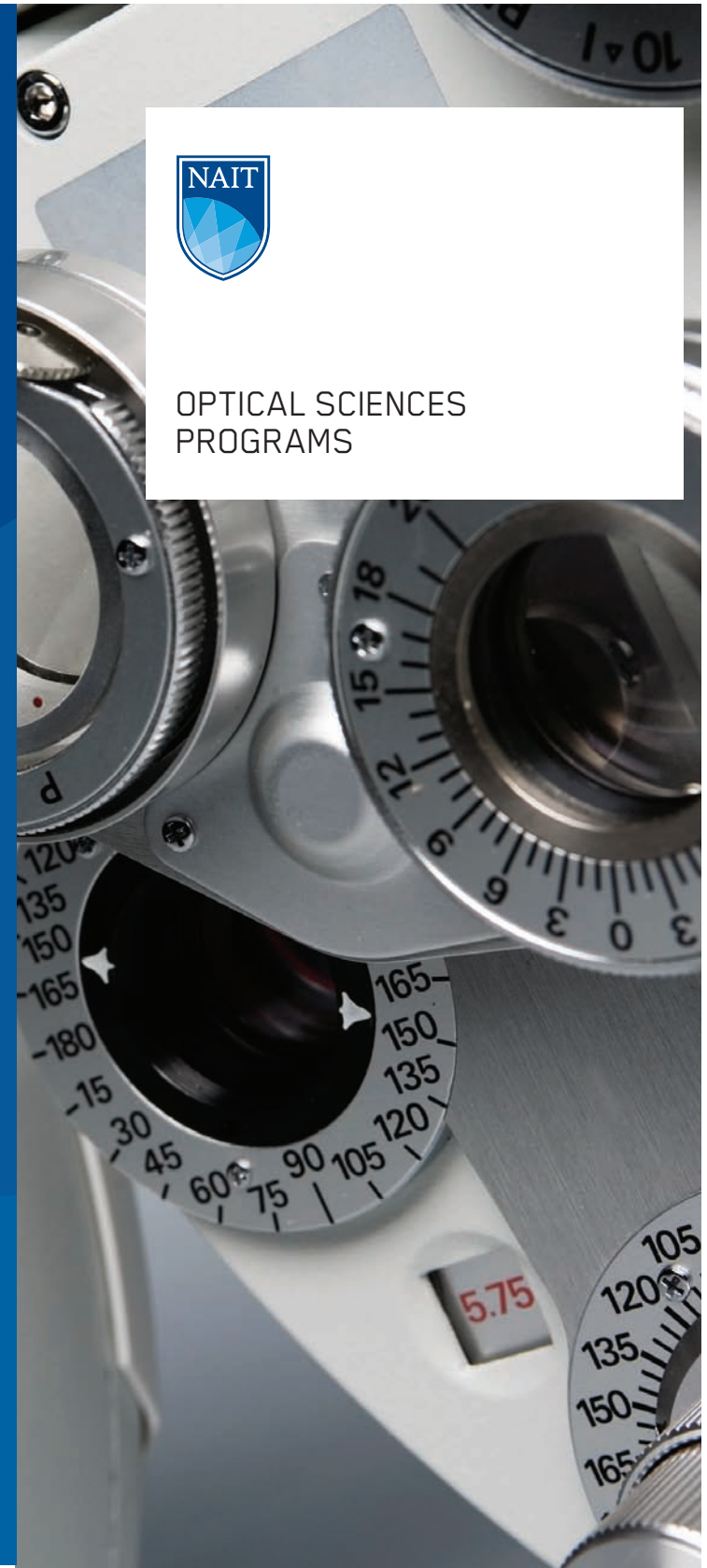
1308 West Anderson Lane, Suite B,  
Austin, Texas 78757  
PH 713.477.4900 FAX 512.459.1560  
[www.roatx.org](http://www.roatx.org)

### AN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY COMMITTED TO STUDENT SUCCESS

11762 - 106 St. Edmonton Alberta Canada T5G 2R1  
PH 780.471.6248 FAX 1.800.661.4077  
[www.nait.ca](http://www.nait.ca)



## OPTICAL SCIENCES PROGRAMS





## EYEGLASSES DIPLOMA

The Eyeglasses program is a two-year, independent study program that includes two years of academic study and a practicum. The practicum allows students to apply their knowledge and skills, while receiving on-the-job training and completing the clinical aspect of the program.

### EYEGLASSES PRACTICUM

This portion of your training is accomplished under the direct supervision of a practicing optician, optometrist or ophthalmologist. Work experience is recorded and students must demonstrate an inventory of competencies over the course of 2000 hours.

### EYEGLASSES DIPLOMA PROGRAM (ACADEMIC) ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS:

- High school diploma
- Applicants must be enrolled in the Practicum
- A member of NSDO, PCOA or ROATx

### THERE ARE TWO LEVELS OF THIS COURSE OFFERED:

**YEAR ONE** is designed to introduce students to mathematics, anatomy, physiology, and conditions of the eye. Emphasis will be placed on the use of instruments and tools, the adjustment of frames, available lens products, optics and analysis and interpretation of prescriptions.

**YEAR TWO** introduces the student to advanced optics, interpersonal skills, and lens finishing. Continued emphasis will be placed on the use of instruments and tools, optics, available lens products, and analysis & interpretation of prescriptions.



## ADVANCED PRACTICE CONTACT LENS PROGRAM

The Contact Lens program is a two-year independent study program for opticians. This program is an advanced practice, requiring students to have successfully completed the Eyeglasses program and be a registered optician. In addition to two years of theory, a Practicum is required. This practicum consists of on-the-job training, allowing students to complete the clinical aspect of the program.

### ADVANCED PRACTICE – CONTACT LENS PRACTICUM

This portion of your training is accomplished under the direct supervision of a practicing contact lens practitioner, optometrist or ophthalmologist. The work experience is recorded through the practicum enrolment where an inventory of competencies must be observed, as well as 500 hours work experience documented.

### ADVANCED PRACTICE - CONTACT LENS (ACADEMIC) ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS:

- Applicants must be enrolled in the Contact Lens Practicum and
- Have prior equivalent education in eyeglasses dispensing
- A member of NSDO, PCOA or ROATx

### THERE ARE TWO LEVELS OF THIS COURSE OFFERED:

**YEAR ONE** is designed to introduce students to anatomy and physiology, pathology, pharmacology and instrumentation. Emphasis will be placed on the preliminary examination and other procedures involved with initial clinical visits.

**YEAR TWO** is intently focused on the fitting of contact lenses. Introduction and refinement of the art and science of the contact lens fit, design, care, as well as management of both soft and hard lenses is taught. Emphasis on specialty lenses and follow-up procedures will also be examined.

## ADVANCED PRACTICE SIGHT TESTING PROGRAM

The Sight Testing Program is an advanced practice and students must have completed the Eyeglasses program and be a registered optician. In addition to the two years of theory, an additional Practicum is required.

The **FIRST YEAR** of the Sight Testing Program is designed to introduce students to anatomy and physiology, pathology, pharmacology, and instrumentation. Emphasis will be placed on preliminary examination and other procedures involved with initial clinical visits.

The **SECOND YEAR** of the Sight Testing Program further explores the art and science of the refraction, including phorometry, strabismus, and muscle imbalances. Emphasis is placed on the objective refraction, orthoptics and the subjective refraction.

