



## ***Rolling Admissions Explained***

### **What is rolling admissions?**

SCCO begins accepting applications through OptomCAS on July 1 of each admissions cycle.

Rolling admissions is the name for a process where applications are reviewed as they are received. and should an applicant meet the academic criteria and interview successfully, they are offered a seat in the incoming class. Offers made and class seats are filled over the duration of the admissions cycle.

SCCO fills the class with approx. 100 students each year. If you are one of the early applicants to compete for one of the seats in a class, your odds for success will be greater.

To maximize success in a rolling admissions cycle, it is best to apply early.

Before the end of the admissions cycle, offers for all the limited number of seats will be made. At this point and as the interview season progresses, applicants who interview well will be placed on the Alternate List. For more information about the Alternate List, see document called "Alternate List Explained" located here:

[www.optometryadmissions.com/faqs](http://www.optometryadmissions.com/faqs)

### **I know I should apply early, but I don't have all my application contents ready to submit. Should I submit my application anyway?**

To be able to apply through OptomCAS, you will need the following:

- Essays completed
- Transcripts for all college level work completed so far
- Be prepared to pay the OptomCAS fee
- Recommenders for your LORs email contact information (note, submitting LORs is optional)

To submit your application, you do not need to have taken the OAT. This step may be completed later as your application remains "open" all season.

If you have taken the OAT, your scores will be automatically uploaded to your application; therefore, there is no need to "send" your OAT scores to our program specifically. Unofficial scores submitted by an applicant will not be considered.

Awaiting fall grades should not affect your decision to submit your application early. It is best to submit your application early, and should the admissions committee desire to see your fall grades, you will be notified and your application will be placed on hold until your fall grades are available through OptomCAS.

### **How do I update my OptomCAS application with fall grades?**

OptomCAS will allow you to update a submitted application with fall grades through a process called an "Academic Update" (check with OptomCAS for these specific dates which vary with each admissions cycle). You must submit an official transcript before OptomCAS will send a revision out to the optometry programs to which you applied.

Fall term grades are the only grades that may be utilized to update your application. If you have already received an acceptance from SCCO, you will not be required update your application with fall grades through OptomCAS. Instead, you are required to submit official copies of all transcripts to SCCO prior to matriculation.

If you have not received an acceptance from SCCO by the time your fall grades are available, you are strongly encouraged to utilize the revision option to update your application through OptomCAS.

**I haven't completed the prerequisite requirements and I am still a whole year away from completing undergrad. Can I still apply?**

Yes. It is the rule rather than the exception that most applicants have not finished SCCO's pre-requisite requirements. You must however be on track to complete the pre-requisite requirements before beginning fall classes at SCCO.

Applicants have through the summer term that directly precedes the beginning of the fall term at SCCO to complete the pre-requisite requirements. Pre-requisite courses must be finished and transcribed by Orientation Day which is mid-August of each school year. Check with SCCO's admissions office for the exact calendar date by emailing [ODadmissions@ketchum.edu](mailto:ODadmissions@ketchum.edu)

**I am not satisfied with my OAT scores and plan to retake the OAT. Should I wait to submit my application until after I've retaken the OAT?**

Each time SCCO receives new OAT test scores, your application is updated; therefore, it is more efficient to submit your application *even if you plan to retake the OAT*, which allows SCCO to begin processing the rest of your application. Having the preliminary processing complete and awaiting only one component such as updated OAT scores is the best way to prevent further delay.

**What is the latest date that I can submit my application?**

**Important Deadlines:**

- The last date to take the OAT is April 1
- The deadline for submitting an application to SCCO through OptomCAS is April 1
- The supplemental application fee to SCCO must be paid by April 30

Please be advised to follow-up with OptomCAS to make sure they are in receipt of all materials you are required to submit. This is an ongoing responsibility on your part as you work through the admissions season.

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