



Optical Assistant

Youth Apprenticeship

OPTICAL ASSISTANT

Optical Assistant youth apprentices help clients select frames, and measure and fit them for their optical prescription. They also assist with eye exams including exam setup, cleaning, and restocking.

Length of Apprenticeship: One year

REQUIRED COMPETENCIES

Youth apprentices must become proficient in both general employability and occupation-specific competencies. All of these, and examples of how each can be demonstrated, are found in the following pages. A total of 11 occupational competencies must be learned for this occupation. Employers may substitute out one of these and should write in the competency they are adding. Youth apprentices must be evaluated on these competencies at least two times each year of their apprenticeship.

Competencies
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Practice infection control and safety2. Obtain lens prescriptions3. Measure client eye lengths, centers, and distances4. Setup optometry area5. Assist to perform eye exam6. Instruct clients on how to care for eyewear7. Order frames and lenses8. Assist clients in selecting frames9. Fit glasses to clients10. Clean and restock after procedure11. Maintain inventory

REGISTERED APPRENTICESHP BRIDGING OPPORTUNITIES

The following Registered Apprenticeship is available in this area:

- Ophthalmic Assistant

POST-SECONDARY PATHWAY OPPORTUNITIES

There are several post-secondary pathway opportunities in this area. The following is a partial list.

- Optical Technician
- Optometry



Optical Assistant

Youth Apprenticeship

ON-THE-JOB LEARNING PERFORMANCE STANDARDS GUIDE

YOUTH APPRENTICE INFORMATION

Youth Apprentice Name
YA Coordinator
YA Consortium
School District

SIGNATURES

The On-the-Job Learning Performance Standards Guide includes a list of competencies youth apprentices learn through mentoring and training at the worksite.

Instructions for the Worksite Employers/Mentors and School-Based or YA coordinators: This document should be reviewed with the employer/mentor, school-based or YA coordinator on a regular basis with the youth apprentice to record progress and plan future steps to ensure completion of the required competencies. Mentors, school-based/YA coordinator, and the apprentice sign below.

Employer/Mentor

1st Evaluation (Required)

2nd Evaluation (Required)

Employer/Mentor Signature	Employer/Mentor Signature
Employer/Mentor	Employer/Mentor
Business/Company	Business/Company
Date Signed	Date Signed

3rd Evaluation (Optional)

4th Evaluation (Optional)

Employer/Mentor Signature	Employer/Mentor Signature
Employer/Mentor	Employer/Mentor
Business/Company	Business/Company
Date Signed	Date Signed

School-Based and/or YA Coordinator

1st Evaluation (Required)

School-Based and/or YA Coordinator Signature
School-Based and/or YA Coordinator
School District or Organization
Date Signed

2nd Evaluation (Required)

School-Based and/or YA Coordinator Signature
School-Based and/or YA Coordinator
School District or Organization
Date Signed

3rd Evaluation (Optional)

School-Based and/or YA Coordinator Signature
School-Based and/or YA Coordinator
School District or Organization
Date Signed

4th Evaluation (Optional)

School-Based and/or YA Coordinator Signature
School-Based and/or YA Coordinator
School District or Organization
Date Signed

Youth Apprentice

1st Evaluation (Required)

Youth Apprentice Signature
Youth Apprentice
School District / High School
Date Signed

2nd Evaluation (Required)

Youth Apprentice Signature
Youth Apprentice
School District / High School
Date Signed

3rd Evaluation (Optional)

Youth Apprentice Signature
Youth Apprentice
School District / High School
Date Signed

4th Evaluation (Optional)

Youth Apprentice Signature
Youth Apprentice
School District / High School
Date Signed

EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS (TO BE COMPLETED BY YA EMPLOYER/MENTOR)

All youth apprentices must demonstrate the key employability skills listed below in order to complete the YA program. They do so by earning at least a "Meets Expectation" rating in each. **At least two evaluations are required each year of a youth apprenticeship.** More columns are included below for those who choose to conduct more frequent reviews.

1	Working to Meet Expectations: Needs improvement; requires much assistance and supervision; rarely displays this behavior
2	Meets Expectations: Meets entry-level criteria; requires some supervision; often displays this behavior
3	Exceeds Expectations: Exceeds entry-level criteria; requires minimal supervision; consistently displays this behavior

Employability Skills		Rating			
Competency and Rating Criteria		Minimum Rating of 2 for EACH Check Rating			
Competency and Rating Criteria		Initial	Mid Year 1	Mid Year 2	Final
1. Develops positive work relationships with others. <i>Examples of qualities and habits that the employee might exhibit include . . .</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interacts with others with respect and in a non-judgmental manner Responds to others in an appropriate and non-offensive manner Helps co-workers and peers accomplish tasks or goals Applies problem-solving strategies to improve relations with others When managing others, shows traits such as compassion, listening, coaching, team development, and appreciation 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3
2. Communicates effectively with others <i>Examples of qualities and habits that the employee might exhibit include . . .</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjusts the communication approach for the target audience, purpose, and situation to maximize impact Organizes messages/information in a logical and helpful manner Speaks clearly and writes legibly Models behaviors to show active listening Applies what was read to actual practice Asks appropriate questions for clarity 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3
3. Collaborates with others <i>Examples of qualities and habits that the employee might exhibit include . . .</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works effectively in teams with people of diverse backgrounds regardless of sex, race, ethnicity, nationality, sexuality, religion, political views, and abilities Shares responsibility for collaborative work and decision making Uses the problem-solving process to work through differences of opinion in a constructive manner to achieve a reasonable compromise Avoids contributing to an unproductive group conflict Shares information and carries out responsibilities in a timely manner 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3

Employability Skills		Rating			
Competency and Rating Criteria		Minimum Rating of 2 for EACH Check Rating			
Competency and Rating Criteria		Initial	Mid Year 1	Mid Year 2	Final
4. Maintains composure under pressure <i>Examples of qualities and habits that the employee might exhibit include . . .</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses critical thinking to determine the best options or outcomes when faced with a challenging situation • Carries out assigned duties while under pressure • Acts in a respectful, professional, and non-offensive manner while under pressure • Applies stress management techniques to cope under pressure 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3
5. Demonstrates integrity <i>Examples of qualities and habits that the employee might exhibit include . . .</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carries out responsibilities in an ethical, legal and confidential manner • Responds to situations in a timely manner • Takes personal responsibility to correct problems • Models behaviors that demonstrate self-discipline, reliability, and dependability 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3
6. Performs quality work <i>Examples of qualities and habits that the employee might exhibit include . . .</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carries out written and verbal directions accurately • Completes work efficiently and effectively • Performs calculations accurately • Conserves resources, supplies, and materials to minimize costs and environmental impact • Uses equipment, technology, and work strategies to improve workflow • Applies problem-solving strategies to improve productivity • Adheres to worksite regulations and practices • Maintains an organized work area 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3
7. Provides quality goods or services (internal and external) <i>Examples of qualities and habits that the employee might exhibit include . . .</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows support for the organizational goals and principles by own personal actions • Displays a respectful and professional image to customers • Displays an enthusiastic attitude and desire to take care of customer needs • Seeks out ways to increase customer satisfaction • Produces goods to workplace specifications 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3
8. Shows initiative and self-direction <i>Examples of qualities and habits that the employee might exhibit include . . .</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritizes and carries out responsibilities without being told • Responds with enthusiasm and flexibility to handle tasks that need immediate attention • Reflects on any unsatisfactory outcome as an opportunity to learn • Improves personal performance by doing something different or differently • Analyzes how own actions impact the overall organization • Supports own action with sound reasoning and principles • Balances personal activities to minimize interference with work responsibilities 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3

Employability Skills		Rating			
Competency and Rating Criteria		Minimum Rating of 2 for EACH Check Rating			
Competency and Rating Criteria		Initial	Mid Year 1	Mid Year 2	Final
9. Adapts to change <i>Examples of qualities and habits that the employee might exhibit include . . .</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shows flexibility and willingness to learn new skills for various job roles Uses problem-solving and critical-thinking skills to cope with changing circumstances Modifies own work behavior based on feedback, unsatisfactory outcomes, efficiency, and effectiveness Displays a "can do" attitude 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3
10. Demonstrates safety and security regulations and practices <i>Examples of qualities and habits that the employee might exhibit include . . .</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follows personal safety requirements Maintains a safe work environment Demonstrates professional role in an emergency Follows security procedures Maintains confidentiality 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3
11. Applies job-related technology, information, and media <i>Examples of qualities and habits that the employee might exhibit include . . .</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applies technology effectively in the workplace Assesses and evaluates information on the job Assesses training manuals, website, and other media related to the job 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3
12. Fulfills training or certification requirements for employment <i>Examples of this requirement may include . . .</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in required career-related training and/or educational programs Passing certification tests to qualify for licensure and/or certification Participation in company training or orientation 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3
13. Sets personal goals for improvement <i>Examples of this requirement may include . . .</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setting goals that are specific and measurable Setting work-related goals that align with the organization's mission Identifying strategies to reach goals Reflecting on goal progress to regularly evaluate and modify goals 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3

OCCUPATIONAL COMPETENCIES

(TO BE COMPLETED BY YA EMPLOYER/MENTOR)

Youth apprentices must earn a rating of at least "MEETS EXPECTATIONS" in each competency by the conclusion of the apprenticeship. A total of 11 competencies, 10 must be from the list below. If necessary, employers can substitute one competency with another occupationally appropriate skill. That skill should be added to the competency list for assessment. **At least two evaluations are required each year of a youth apprenticeship.** More columns are included below for those who choose to conduct more frequent reviews.

1	Working to Meet Expectations: Needs improvement; requires much assistance and supervision; rarely displays this behavior
2	Meets Expectations: Meets entry-level criteria; requires some supervision; often displays this behavior
3	Exceeds Expectations: Exceeds entry-level criteria; requires minimal supervision; consistently displays this behavior

Occupational Competencies		Rating			
Competency and Rating Criteria		Year 1 Evaluation Rating			
		Initial	Mid Year 1	Mid Year 2	Final
1. Practice infection control and safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> maintain a clean work environment clean up spills follow sanitation procedures wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) handle chemicals safely 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
		<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
		<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
2. Obtain lens prescriptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> screen the order for completeness note any special needs or ophthalmic disorders on the order create and maintain the client record enter order in the client profile for processing verify insurance coverage for order assist client to choose best payment options 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
		<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
		<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
3. Measure client eye lengths, centers, and distances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> verify client follow health and safety processes explain process use applicable measuring tool measure client eye length, center, pupillary distance, head/temple width record measurements 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
		<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
		<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3

Occupational Competencies		Rating			
Competency and Rating Criteria		Year 1 Evaluation Rating			
		Initial	Mid Year 1	Mid Year 2	Final
4. Setup optometry area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> verify procedure to be performed gather appropriate equipment and supplies ensure the cleanliness of the procedure equipment and room check equipment for malfunction or damage confirm solutions and supplies are correct and not expired arrange the equipment and supplies in proper order or location 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3
5. Assist to perform eye exam <ul style="list-style-type: none"> review the purpose and the steps of the procedure identify the client provide privacy for the client as needed observe the worksite professional in outlining the procedural protocol for the client describe the equipment and supplies that will be used during the procedure select the correct equipment and supplies position the client assist with the optical exam procedure assist with recording exam data clean and disinfect equipment and supplies dispose of contaminated items as required discuss exam results with worksite professional 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3
6. Instruct clients on how to care for eyewear <ul style="list-style-type: none"> describe the equipment and supplies that will be needed for eyewear care demonstrate eyewear care to client check for client comprehension watch client perform eyewear care; provide coaching if appropriate 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3
7. Order frames and lenses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> verify brand, type, model number, and sizes for frames desired by client verify lens prescription verify insurance coverage, deductibles, and co-payments compute charges complete order form document disbursements or deposits in the appropriate record process client cash or credit payment and insurance coverage 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3

Occupational Competencies		Rating			
Competency and Rating Criteria		Year 1 Evaluation Rating			
		Initial	Mid Year 1	Mid Year 2	Final
8. Assist clients in selecting frames <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identify customer's needs and preferences recommend products taking into account prescription requirements discuss adaptations that can be made to the frame discuss pricing and payment maintain safe practices 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3
9. Fit glasses to clients <ul style="list-style-type: none"> maintain safe practices seat client adjust bridge pads and frame arm curve test fit on client make modifications as needed 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3
10. Clean and restock after procedure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> gather the equipment and supplies clean equipment and room according to protocol dispose of contaminated materials as required return re-usable supplies to proper locations restock supplies as indicated 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3
11. Maintain inventory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> keep all assigned items and areas stocked with supplies organize and clean storage areas monitor inventory levels manage items with expiration dates 		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3
Competency Substitute (if you replaced a competency above, note the competency and rating)		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3

