

What You Need to Know

Medical Academy is proud to offer the Certified Ophthalmic Assistant program. This program is the **ONLY** program of its kind at the high school level and the only COA program south of San Antonio. With completion of this program, you will be given the opportunity to sit for the certification exam.

Requirements include:

- ◇ Passing grade in the course
- ◇ Completion of clinical hours
- ◇ Two current government issued picture IDs



SOUTH TEXAS ACADEMY FOR MEDICAL PROFESSIONS

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**MEDICAL
ACADEMY**



Certified Ophthalmic Assistant



**Learning Today...
Leading Tomorrow**

Certification Process

The Certified Ophthalmic Assistant (COA) is an entry-level certification that teaches students in 19 specific content areas including topics such as:

- ◇ Pupillary assessment
- ◇ Contact lenses
- ◇ Keratometry
- ◇ Ophthalmic imaging
- ◇ Refractometry
- ◇ Visual assessment
- ◇ Visual fields
- ◇ Patient education

Students gain certification through the Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO).



COAs are in high demand due to the extreme shortage in eye-care professionals. Certified personnel make ophthalmic practices more productive.

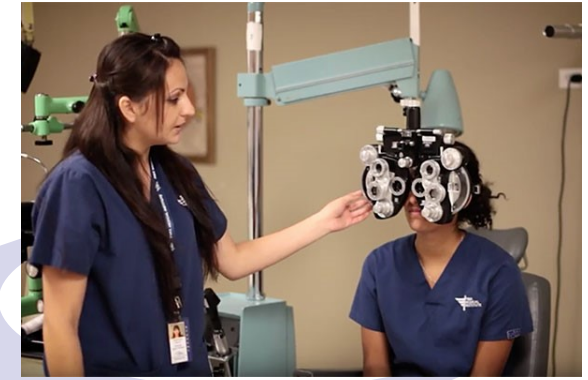
Job Description

Certified Ophthalmic Assistants work closely with ophthalmologists, or eye doctors, and prepare patients for their eye exam. In many instances the COA will perform all preliminary testing and measurements for the doctor which will aid in patient diagnosis.



Duties

- ◇ Gather medical records and patient information
- ◇ Take ocular measurements
- ◇ Administer or prepare medication
- ◇ Provide eye care and contact lens information to patient
- ◇ Maintain and clean ophthalmic equipment
- ◇ Assist the ophthalmologist in basic procedures



Benefits

- ◇ Work in a high-demand field
- ◇ Work closely with other medical professionals
- ◇ Help patients with diagnosis, treatment, and education
- ◇ Make enough money to support yourself during college
- ◇ Be a part of an innovative program

