Our vision is to be a progressive leader in optometric education and to improve the way health care is delivered world-wide.

The mission of Western University of Health Sciences College of Optometry is to graduate caring, comprehensive health care professionals who will serve the needs of a diverse global society. The College emphasizes rehabilitation of the visual system, neuro-optometry, and interprofessional education. We advance the profession of optometry through innovation in health care education, research, and patient care.

We value a rich humanistic tradition and are committed to professional collaboration, community involvement, accountability, integrity, and respect.
INTERVIEW PROCESS

Interviews at Western University of Health Sciences are meant to be an exchange of information in a warm and welcoming environment. It is an experience that should be both positive and enjoyable for you. Our interviews are never meant to be threatening nor confrontational in any way. You have been selected by the admissions committee because you exemplify those qualities that we feel are important in the health care professionals whom we educate.

We understand that you are also making choices regarding the professional school that you will attend. Our goal is to inform you of the educational programs provided to assist you, the state of the art facilities that are available to the students, and demonstrate that we are “living our values” so that we are here for our students and for each other. This is what makes Western University of Health Sciences a special place to learn.

Interviews
• We anticipate interviewing approximately 275-300 candidates to fill a class of approx. 86 students
• The average interview is approximately 25-30 minutes in duration
• You will be asked a series of general and behavioral-based questions. Behavioral-based questions require you to draw from personal experience to formulate your answers.
• The interview panel may be comprised of the following: Admissions Committee member, faculty member, other WesternU employee or a local Optometrist

Orientation
The interview day has been organized to allow you to obtain information on our programs and support services; therefore we encourage you to ASK QUESTIONS!

Tour of the Campus
A tour of our campus will take place on the day of your interview.

Admissions Committee Decisions
• Following the interview, you will be placed in one of four categories: Accept, Alternate, Hold or Not Accepted to our program
• You will be notified by email and/or postal mail of the committee’s decision – typically within one to two weeks after your interview. Notification letters for all categories are sent on a rolling basis.
• Official transcripts and health clearance documents are required of all accepted students
• If you are selected as an alternate, you may be offered a seat in the class as late as the first week of school (August)

Questions
If you have questions regarding your application, please contact your Admissions Counselor by phone or email.

Evaluation Form
After your interview, you will receive an email with a link to an interview day evaluation form. We ask that you take a few minutes to complete the survey as your comments are important to us and will be considered when planning next year’s interview day activities. The information that you report will remain confidential and will not be used in determining admission.
ACCEPT STATUS INFORMATION

The non-refundable acceptance deposit for applicants accepted to WesternU’s College of Optometry is $500.00, payable within two weeks after notification of acceptance.

Prerequisite Coursework
- **ALL** prerequisite course work in progress must be completed by the end of the spring semester or quarter just prior to matriculation.
- Summer courses just prior to matriculation will **not** be accepted.
- All prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of “C” or better (a grade of “C-” or below is not acceptable). It is your responsibility to notify us right away if you receive a grade of “C-” or below.
- If your plans change, and you are unable to enroll in a course you listed as planned, you must notify us of the replacement course(s) so we can confirm that the new course(s) will meet our requirement. If you do not provide us with the new course information, you risk enrolling in a course that does not meet our requirements which could ultimately affect your admission to our program.

If you have prerequisite course work in progress and are accepted to the Optometry program, your acceptance will be contingent upon successful completion of **ALL** prerequisite courses.

**Health Clearance Documents**
A complete **history and physical examination** is required prior to registration (must be within six months of matriculation). Your physician must indicate if you are current with your vaccination for tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis (Tdap) and that you have received tuberculosis clearance (must be valid throughout the entire academic year). You must also provide proof of immunity, through **serum blood titers**, to the following communicable diseases: measles, mumps, rubella, varicella, and Hepatitis B. Upon acceptance, you will be provided with a link to the most current requirements/forms.

**Criminal Background Check**
All accepted students will be required to complete a criminal background check prior to matriculation. Details will be emailed to you in the late spring.

**All required documentation must be received by the deadline indicated below. Failure to complete the admissions requirements by the deadline may result in the delay of your financial aid/registration and/or rescindment of your acceptance.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acceptance Deposit and Declaration Form</td>
<td>2 weeks after acceptance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Clearance Documents</td>
<td>June 1, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Official Transcripts</td>
<td>June 1, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any Additional Requested Documentation</td>
<td>June 1, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non U.S. Residents/ Proof of Legal U.S. Residency</td>
<td>At time of interview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(i.e., visa, green card)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have any questions, please check with the Admissions Office.
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International students and any other applicants, who are not US citizens and are living in the US, should be prepared to provide proof of legal US residency at the time of interview. Proof of legal US residency is required prior to any offer of acceptance.

ALTERNATE STATUS INFORMATION

If you are selected as an alternate, you may be offered a seat from the time the alternate letter is received until classes begin in August.

An email response from you, when you first learn of your alternate status, is all that is required for you to remain in consideration. If you should accept a seat elsewhere, please notify us in writing (email is fine) so that we can remove you from the alternate list. Be advised that second interviews are not granted.

The alternate status will remain unchanged until notified in writing from the Admissions Office. Applicants placed as alternates may or may not be offered a seat for the upcoming entering class.

If you are unsuccessful in gaining admission, you will be notified via email by the first week of September.

HOLD STATUS INFORMATION

A hold status means that the Admissions Committee is not yet ready to make a decision on your application for reasons that may include, but are not limited to: the need for further clarification, request that you re-take the OAT or submit additional grades.

IF YOU ARE NOT ACCEPTED

If you are not offered an acceptance you will have an opportunity to schedule a phone counseling appointment to discuss general reasons for denial and suggestions on how to improve your application for the next application cycle should you choose to re-apply.

Remember to check our website for new application deadline dates and any changes in program prerequisites.

WESTERN UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES CATALOG

You may access the University Catalog via our web site. It is presented as a PDF file so you will need to download Acrobat Reader to access the catalog.

To ease download times for viewing, we have broken up the catalog into major sections – mostly by academic program. There is a general university section (Overview) at the start and a listing of the Board of Trustees, Administration, and Faculty at the end. Also, with the advent of an online catalog, the information contained in the Student Handbook has been incorporated into the catalog. University Academic Policies and Procedures are contained as a section within each program component.
Summer Preparedness and Readiness Course (SPaRC)

About SPaRC
The Summer Preparedness and Readiness Course (SPaRC) – formerly known as Summer Medical Sciences Prep Program (SMSPP) – is a six week program designed to prepare incoming students for the rigors of their chosen program by providing an introduction to course work, skills, and competencies in an inter-professional education healthcare setting.

It also introduces students to the “WesternU way” to ease their transition from undergraduate to professional school. SPaRC also provides them with the opportunity to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of their academic, as well as their inter- and intra-personal skills.

Upon matriculation, SPaRC participants have been introduced to deans and faculty, know how to access crucial resources on campus, have experienced and dealt with information overload, and best of all they have already connected with fellow students in and outside their programs.

2017 Course Dates
To be announced later

Course Contents:
Intensive science and anatomy prep
• Skeletal system
• Gross anatomy
• Head and neck anatomy

In-depth introductions to WesternU-specific courses
• IPE (Inter-professional education)
• Healthcare fundamentals
• Community focused service learning

Seminars on professional school skills
• Study skills
• Virtual Anatomy Lab training
• Life and EQ skills training
• Test taking
• Stress management

How to Apply
For incoming WesternU students, find out how to sign up at:
http://www.westernu.edu/lead/lead-summer-prep/

Student Comments:
“This program was such a confidence booster. I have changed so much as a person after going through this class and am so confident and ready to take on my rigorous program.” – DPM

“I loved the optometry breakout sessions! I really appreciated getting to meet some of the faculty and get a taste of what to expect. I loved the support and encouragement from LEAD and TAs! It has been an incredible value to me in building a strong foundation.” – OD
OPTOMETRY CURRICULUM

INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

FACILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

The main campus currently includes 21 major buildings totaling an investment of more than $100 million. The design of the Health Education Center and Patient Care Center fosters interprofessional education and patient care. In addition, a new seven-story, 600-space parking structure was built to serve the new buildings.

Health Education Center (HEC)
• four-story, 180,000 square feet
• wireless equipped
• six auditoriums
• research labs and faculty offices
• more than 50 small-group meeting rooms
• pre-clinical space that mirrors clinical space
• dental simulation clinic for dental students

Patient Care Center (PCC)
Students will gain an understanding and appreciation for other health professionals and promote a team approach to patient care and health care management as part of the university’s unique new inter-professional curriculum. The Patient Care Center will be customized for educational programs as well as optimal patient care.
• three-story, 68,500 square feet
• state-of-the-art Eye Care Center with 20 eye examination lanes containing the latest and best equipment and technology available in the 21st Century
• state-of-the-art oral health clinic with 68 operatories designed to support the latest in clinical technology
• Advanced Limb Preservation Center with on-site cutting-edge clinical diagnostic technology, wound care modalities and reconstructive limb-sparing surgery consultation
• Adaptive equipment for the treatment of people with disabilities

Technology Support
NetOps and User Support, a division of the IT Department, is responsible for maintaining the information technology infrastructure for Western University. This includes the campus network and telephone system, as well as the individual Computing Toolbox used by university personnel.

The Network Operations staff sees to it that the servers delivering both Internet and Intranet based programs run smoothly and meet the growing needs of the university community. They also see to it that data created and exchanged over the network is secured and properly backed up on a daily basis.

In addition to providing just-in-time technical support for students, faculty, and staff, User Support personnel provide the necessary maintenance and upgrades on campus workstations and student laptop computers. They also participate as needed in new student orientation and training efforts.

These services are all accessible through the Technical Support desk, which can be reached by calling (909) 469-5432 (extension 5432 if on campus). They can also be reached by email at techsupport@westernu.edu. Additional information may also be found at
FUNCTIONAL GUIDELINES FOR DIDACTIC AND CLINICAL
OPTOMETRIC EDUCATION

ASCO

To provide guidance to those considering optometry as a profession, the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO) has established functional guidelines for optometric education. The ability to meet these guidelines, along with other criteria established by individual optometric institutions, is necessary for graduation from an optometric professional degree program.

One of the missions of each school and college of optometry is to produce graduates fully qualified to provide quality comprehensive eye care services to the public. To fulfill this mission, each institution must ensure that students demonstrate satisfactory knowledge and skill in the provision of optometric care. Admission committees, therefore, consider a candidate’s capacity to function effectively in the academic and clinical environments, as well as a candidate’s academic qualifications and personal attributes.

The functional guidelines in optometric education require that the candidate/student possess appropriate abilities in the following areas: 1) observation; 2) communication; 3) sensory and motor coordination; 4) intellectual –conceptual, integrative and quantitative abilities; and 5) behavioral and social attributes. Each of these areas is described in this document.

In any case where a student’s abilities in one of these areas are compromised, he or she must demonstrate alternative means and/or abilities to meet the functional requirements. It is expected that seeking and using such alternative means and/or abilities shall be the responsibility of the student. Upon receipt of the appropriate documentation, the school or college will be expected to provide reasonable assistance and accommodation to the student.

OBSERVATION ABILITIES

The student must be able to acquire a defined level of required knowledge as presented through lectures, laboratories, demonstrations, patient interaction and self-study. Acquiring this body of information necessitates the functional use of visual, auditory and somatic sensation enhanced by the functional use of other sensory modalities. Examples of these observational skills in which accurate information needs to be extracted in an efficient manner include:

Visual Abilities: (as they relate to such things as visual acuity, color vision and binocularity)
- Visualizing and reading information from papers, films, slides, video and computer displays
- Observing optical, anatomic, physiologic and pharmacologic demonstrations and experiments
- Discriminating microscopic images of tissue and microorganisms
- Observing a patient and noting non-verbal signs
- Discriminating numbers, images, and patterns associated with diagnostic tests and instruments
- Visualizing specific ocular tissues in order to discern three-dimensional relationships, depth and color changes
**Auditory Abilities:**
- Understanding verbal presentations in lecture, laboratory, and patient settings
- Recognizing and interpreting various sounds associated with laboratory experiments as well as diagnostic and therapeutic procedures

**Tactile Abilities:**
- Palpating the eye and related areas to determine the integrity of the underlying structures
- Palpating and feeling certain cardiovascular pulses

**COMMUNICATION ABILITIES**
The student must be able to communicate effectively, efficiently, and sensitively with patients and their families, peers, staff, instructors, and other members of the health care team. The student must be able to demonstrate established communication skills using traditional and alternative means. Examples of required communications skills include:
- Relating effectively and sensitively to patients, conveying compassion and empathy
- Perceiving verbal and non-verbal communication such as sadness, worry, agitation, and lack of comprehension from patients
- Eliciting information from patients and observing changes in mood and activity
- Communicating quickly, effectively and efficiently in oral and written English with patients and other members of the health care team
- Reading and legibly recording observations, test results, and management plans accurately
- Completing assignments, patient records, and correspondence accurately and in a timely manner

**SENSORY AND MOTOR COORDINATION ABILITIES**
Students must possess the sensory and motor skills necessary to perform an eye examination, including emergency care. In general, this requires sufficient exteroception sense (touch, pain, temperature), proprioceptive sense (position, pressure, movement, stereognosis, and vibratory) and fine motor function (significant coordination and manual dexterity using arms, wrists, hands and fingers). Examples of skill required include but are not limited to:
- Instillation of ocular pharmaceutical agents
- Insertion, removal and manipulation of contact lenses
- Assessment of blood pressure and pulse
- Removal of foreign objects from the cornea
- Simultaneous manipulation of lenses, instruments, and therapeutic agents and devices
- Reasonable facility of movement
- Injections into the eye, lids or limbs

**INTELLECTUAL-CONCEPTUAL, INTEGRATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE ABILITIES**
Problem solving, a most critical skill, is essential for optometric students and must be performed quickly, especially in emergency situations. In order to be an effective problem solver, the student must be able to accurately and efficiently utilize such abilities as measurement, calculation, reasoning, analysis, judgment, investigation, memory, numerical recognition and synthesis. Examples of these abilities include being able to:
- Determine appropriate questions to be asked and clinical tests to be performed
- Identify and analyze significant findings from history, examination, and other test data
- Demonstrate good judgment and provide a reasonable assessment, diagnosis and management of patients
- Retain, recall, and obtain information in an efficient manner
- Identify and communicate the limits of one’s knowledge and skill
BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL ATTRIBUTES
The student must possess the necessary behavioral and social attributes for the study and practice of optometry. Examples of such attributes include:

- Satisfactory emotional health required for full utilization of one's intellectual ability
- High ethical standards and integrity
- An empathy with patients and concern for their welfare
- Commitment to the optometric profession and its standards
- Effective interpersonal relationships with patients, peers, and instructors
- Professional demeanor
- Effective functioning under varying degrees of stress and workload
- Adaptability to changing environments and uncertainties
- Positive acceptance of suggestions and constructive criticism

Candidates with questions or concerns about how their own conditions or disabilities might affect their ability to meet these functional standards are encouraged to meet with an optometry school counselor prior to submitting an application.

Approved by the ASCO Board of Directors on March 20, 1998
Revised: March 31, 2009
Applying for Aid

Students need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in order to apply for financial aid. The Financial Aid Office encourages all students to file the FAFSA via the web at https://fafsa.ed.gov/ on or after October 1, 2016.

Students are encouraged to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to update your 2015 IRS tax return information. The school code for Western University of Health Sciences (WesternU) is 024827. The priority deadline for the financial aid application is March 2, 2017. Once the student has submitted the completed FAFSA application, the Financial Aid Office will then be able to determine the student’s eligibility for federal aid. An award letter will be sent electronically to the student’s Western U e-mail address by mid-April. More detailed information about the financial aid process is available at https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/resources#information-on-getting.

Student Budget

The budgets are set for the student alone. **Per federal regulations, we are not allowed to supplement** the student budget for spouses or any other dependents. However, we are able to add childcare expenses to your budget if your spouse is working while you are attending WesternU. In addition, financial aid is not designed to cover outside consumer debt such as automobile payments, auto insurance, credit card debt and moving expenses to attend WesternU.
The following budgets were assigned to optometry students for the 2016-2017 academic year and are subject to change:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016/2017</th>
<th>First Year 16 Months</th>
<th>Second Year 12 Months</th>
<th>Third Year 16 Months</th>
<th>Fourth Year 12 Months</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctor Of Optometry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition Fees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>$37,310.00</td>
<td>$37,310.00</td>
<td>$37,310.00</td>
<td>$37,310.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Body Fees</td>
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<td>$40.03</td>
<td>$40.02</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduation Fees</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$350.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Fees</td>
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<td>$37,550.00</td>
<td>$37,550.00</td>
<td>$37,700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Items/Estimated Costs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books &amp; Supplies</td>
<td>$5,150.00</td>
<td>$7,883.00</td>
<td>$5,150.00</td>
<td>$168.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living Expenses (TAS/Personnel)</td>
<td>$17,200.00</td>
<td>$20,845.00</td>
<td>$17,200.00</td>
<td>$20,645.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>$2,835.00</td>
<td>$3,375.00</td>
<td>$4,644.00</td>
<td>$6,424.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$850.00</td>
<td>$1,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background Check &amp; Finger Printing</td>
<td>$65.00</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Budget Components</td>
<td>$28,250.00</td>
<td>$31,991.00</td>
<td>$23,097.00</td>
<td>$30,736.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan Fees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct Stafford Unsubsidized Loan Fees</td>
<td>$450.00</td>
<td>$504.00</td>
<td>$450.00</td>
<td>$504.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grad PLUS Loan Fees</td>
<td>$990.00</td>
<td>$995.00</td>
<td>$773.00</td>
<td>$990.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Loan Fees</td>
<td>$1,325.00</td>
<td>$1,498.00</td>
<td>$1,223.00</td>
<td>$1,494.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Budget</td>
<td>$31,924.00</td>
<td>$38,720.00</td>
<td>$23,560.00</td>
<td>$32,230.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Budgets for the 2017-2018 aid year will be posted on our webpage by the end of March 2017. To view our updated budgets please visit [www.westernu.edu/financial-budgets](http://www.westernu.edu/financial-budgets)
Western University Financial Aid Office has developed Financing A Healthy Future a literacy program that can be used in all phases of your student, work and personal life. Our goal is to help our students make better-informed financial decisions and give you the tools needed to help with financial planning, counseling and budgeting. This site will also help give you the financial awareness to prepare you for financial success and a healthier financial future. Please explore all of the areas of this site and visit often for new and additional information.

For my information on budgeting and finances please visit our Financing a Healthy Future website at: http://websites.westernu.edu/financial-literacy

Disbursements

Federal regulations require that all federal funds be divided into equal payments. Based on the academic program for the College Optometry, disbursements are typically scheduled 5 days prior to the first day of enrollment for the fall term. Spring disbursements are typically scheduled the first Monday of January upon returning from the winter holiday break.

- Your financial aid disbursement will be applied to your student account to pay off tuition and other fees before the tuition due date.
- If there is a credit balance, it will be disbursed to your checking account on your scheduled disbursement date. These dates will be updated by the end of March 2017 for the 2017-2018 academic year.

Loan Programs

Federal Unsubsidized Stafford - Students may be eligible for up to $47,167 based on a 12-month academic year. Effective July 1, 2013 interest rates have changed to a “variable-fixed” rate. The rate would be fixed until the loan is paid in full. Interest rates will be established on July 1, for the upcoming academic year. For the 2016/2017 academic year the interest rate is 5.31% (T-bill + 3.60%) which starts accruing interest as soon as the funds are disbursed to the university. Please remember that the interest rate for the 2017/2018 academic year may differ based on what the 10-Year T-Bill will be by the end of May 2017. For additional information visit our website at www.westernu.edu/financial. In addition, there is a 1.069% origination fee which is assessed at the time of disbursement. Federal unsubsidized repayment will begin six months after the student graduates or drops below half time enrollment. Limited deferments and forbearances are available to students upon graduation based on economic hardship.
Grad PLUS Loan – Effective July 1, 2013 interest rates have changed to a “variable-fixed” rate. The rate would be fixed until the loan is paid in full. Interest rates will be established on July 1, for the upcoming academic year. For the 2015/2016 academic year, the interest rate is 6.31% (T-bill + 4.60%), which starts accruing interest as soon as the funds are disbursed to the university. Please remember that the interest rate for the 2017/2018 academic year may differ based on what the 10-Year T-Bill will be by the end of May 2016. For additional information, visit our website at www.westernu.edu/financial. In addition, there is a 4.276% origination fee which is assessed at the time of disbursement. Repayment begins 6 months after the student graduates or drops below half time enrollment. Limited deferments and forbearances are available to students upon graduation based on economic hardship. Students may borrow up to the cost of attendance minus other financial aid. *The Grad PLUS loan also requires a credit check.

Alternative Loans – Alternative loans are designed for international and DACA students. However, students eligible for federal loans can apply for alternative loans. In order for an international student to obtain funding, a U.S. Citizen co-signer is required. Alternative loans are based on credit worthiness. Unlike the Stafford Loan program, approval is not guaranteed. The lending institutions determine interest rates of which there is no cap. Some lenders may charge an origination fee. Alternative loans may not have deferment/forbearance options as well. *Alternative loans also require a credit check.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Military (Army, Navy and Air Force) – Pays tuition and fees, books and supplies and a monthly stipend. Scholarships can be awarded for up to four years.

WICHE – Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education pays a portion of tuition for those students who are residents of the following states: Alaska, Colorado, Arizona, Hawaii, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. For additional information please contact a financial aid counselor or visit, http://wiche.edu

Private Scholarships – Scholarships are available from private sources such as: hospital auxiliaries, ethnic associations, religious affiliations, community organizations etc. We encourage students to access the internet for scholarship sources such as www.fastweb.com.

Institutional Scholarships – Are also available. To find out more, visit the Financial Aid Office or visit our scholarship site www.westernu.edu/financial-scholarships.

For additional information on Financial Aid please visit our website at
www.westernu.edu
Or call 800-346-1610
Learning Enhancement and Academic Development (LEAD)
The LEAD office is student-oriented. It serves as an important resource, partnership and support system for students. LEAD counselors are dedicated to assist students in developing their academic, professional and personal skills.

Tutorial Assistance Program (TAP)
This program offers supplemental group academic instruction for students. Instruction is facilitated by trained competent peer tutors.

Academic Counseling
In one-on-one academic counseling sessions, students can improve their competencies in a range of areas, including: study strategies, test taking, focus and retention, time management, stress management, academic writing skills and more. Each session is designed to address the student’s particular learning style, with the help of basic assessments. Students can schedule as many sessions as needed.

Wellbeing Initiative
The initiative consists of Wellbeing workshops with topics that focus on student wellness, Wellbeing activities around exams, weekly meditation sessions, as well as other activities focused on enriching the humanistic side of the student experience.

Harris Family Center for Disability & Health Policy/Accommodation & Resource Center (CDHP/AARC)
If you have a disability and/or medical condition there are a number of support services available to you. Assistant Director of Accommodations and Resource Center (AARC), Sandra Lawler is available to meet with you and discuss the intake process, required documentation and academic accommodations. To contact the center, you may call (909) 469-5441 or email slawler@westernu.edu

AARC embraces the spirit of providing services to all students with permanent or temporary disabilities or medical conditions, ensuring that all University programs and activities are accessible. During your appointment, you will be advised about the required documentation. AARC understands educational needs and is flexible in its accommodations. Please keep in mind, there are no charges to you for services that are needed to support your educational program. We are here to help you succeed!

Fitness

Counseling | [http://www.westernu.edu/students/students-services/students-services-counseling/](http://www.westernu.edu/students/students-services/students-services-counseling/)
We are pleased to provide all full-time students access to an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for Students through OptumHealth. Under the EAP for Students, you and any member of your immediate household are eligible for up to five free counseling sessions for each “incident” or situation. Counseling includes but is not limited to: emotional well-being, financial planning, work and school issues. Counseling services may be accessed by telephone, via the web, or face-to-face. An on-campus counselor is also available 10 hours a week. Counseling is also provided through the faculty advisor program and the Deans.
Identification Badges
Student identification badges must be worn at all times while on campus, and entry into buildings may be denied without proper ID.

Health Insurance
As a full-time WesternU student, you must show, during registration EACH academic year that you have a current health insurance policy. We encourage you to “shop around” for a health insurance plan that meets your specific needs. Many students are enrolled in plans offered by Blue Cross, Kaiser Permanente, HealthNet, PacifiCare, Aetna, US Healthcare, and United Healthcare. There are many companies that can give you the coverage you need for your specific health concerns. Please see our Student Health Insurance page for further details.

NOTE: There is a University owned medical center (Patient Care Center) located on the WesternU Campus in Pomona, California and students are welcome to use this medical facility. There are no free services to students. Students may want to call in advance to verify that the wait time will be minimal. The Patient Care Center accepts many types of insurance including the insurance plan described above.

Student Parking
Annual parking permits are $470, and semester parking permits are $255 allowing you to park in designated WesternU parking places. These permits may be purchased during online registration. You may instead choose to park in City Public Metered Parking in Lot 12. When you purchase between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. the fee for over 3 hours is $3.00 per day. When you purchase after 7:00 p.m. the fee is $1.00. The machine accepts coins, bills, Visa and MasterCard.

Housing

Metrolink
If you are interested in using the Metrolink, which has a station just a few blocks from campus, be sure to secure housing east of campus. To access schedules and other information, please go online to www.metrolinktrains.com. Rates are determined by distance traveled (originating station to destination station). The rail line which runs parallel to WesternU is the Riverside Line which goes from Downtown Riverside to the Downtown Pomona station. There is also the San Bernardino Line which goes from San Bernardino to the Pomona North station. These are the closest stations to WesternU.

Student Government Association

Community Service & Clubs
WesternU has a very active Student Government Association (SGA) on campus that serves as the voice of students. In addition, we have over 130 different clubs between the Lebanon and Pomona campuses comprising of such diverse groups that include but are not limited to nationally-affiliated professional organizations, cultural/religious groups, and interest-based groups.

Our clubs and classes take part in a variety of community service events each year including offering free health screenings at numerous health fairs, facilitating Santa’s Workshop for over
300 foster care children and assisting at/participating in events such as the Special Olympics and 5K runs to support cancer research. We also host two Club Days per year where you have an opportunity to visit various club booths to discuss their mission and join as a member.

In addition, if you are interested in journalism, we encourage you to get involved in the publication of the WesternU Humanism magazine. The magazine is written and edited by students under the direction of faculty advisors.

**Diversity**
We are proud of our diverse student body, and the many extracurricular activities offered on campus reflect that diversity. We offer a wide range of opportunities with campus organizations that include cultural, religious, medical, and fine arts clubs. The cultural diversity present on our campus provides students with an appreciation and respect for people of all backgrounds.
The goal of LEAD is to be your academic success partner as you transition into professional school.

**LEAD Services:**

- Academic Counseling – preparing students to become independent learners
- Summer Preparedness & Readiness Course (SPaRC)
- Learning Style Assessment
- Outreach/Service Learning
- Tutoring Services

**Health Sciences Center, Rm 101**  
Western University of Health Sciences  
Learning Enhancement and Academic Development Office (LEAD)  
450 East Second Street  
Pomona, CA 91766-1854

**Hours:**  
7:30am-5:00pm (Mon.-Wed., Fri.)  
7:30am-8:00pm (Thur.)  
12:00pm-4:00pm (one Sat./month)  
Phone: (909)469-5325  
Email: LEAD@westernu.edu

**Academic Workshops**

- Time Management
- Test-Taking Skills
- Study Strategies
- Review sessions for large exams
- Co-teach course segments in any of the colleges
- Workshops can be designed and facilitated upon request

**Stress & Wellness**

- Stress Management
- Mindfulness Training
- Exercise, Nutrition, Yoga
- Healthy Living
- “Grow Your Brain” meditation
- Partnership with CDHP for special accommodations

**The LEAD Team**

**Dagmar M Goretzki Cofer, MS, MAMS**  
Director  
(909) 469-5203  
dcofer@westernu.edu

SPECIALIZATIONS:  
Academic skills training, well-being, stress management, focus skills, EQ, concentration, communication, mindfulness

**Hector Arroyo Jr., Ed.D.**  
Assistant Director  
(909) 706-8499  
harroyo@westernu.edu

SPECIALIZATIONS:  
Academic editing, graduate research skills, test-taking strategies, communication skills, group dynamics, writing skills

**Neil Birt, MS**  
Learning Skills Specialist  
(909) 706-3827  
nbirt@westernu.edu

SPECIALIZATIONS:  
Academic editing, online learning, academic skills training, ESL assistance, test-taking strategies, assessment, data analysis

**Martha L. Ruelas, MHSc**  
Office Manager  
(909) 469-5325  
mruelas@westernu.edu

SPECIALIZATIONS:  
Office manager, SPaRC Program Coordinator
ADMINISTRATIVE CONTACTS

ADMISSIONS OFFICE

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT INFORMATION

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

UNIVERSITY STUDENT SERVICES

LEARNING ENHANCEMENT/ ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

LAPTOP COMPUTER TECHNICAL SUPPORT

DIRECTIONS TO CAMPUS

CAMPUS/ PARKING MAPS

COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY STUDENT SERVICES
For specific questions relating to Optometry Curriculum:
Ann Ellis, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs
(909) 706-3903

GROUND TRANSPORTATION

Shuttle Services
Super Shuttle (800) 258-3826

Taxicabs
Yellow Cab Company (800) 649-1222
Bell Cab Company (800) 340-8294

Metrolink Stations
(800) 371-5465

Bus Lines
MTA - Metropolitan Transportation Authority (213) 626-4455
Visit http://www.westernu.edu/campus-directions for a campus map and directions to WesternU.