



BronxCare Health System
Pediatric Optometry/Ocular Disease Residency Program
Residency Program Curriculum 2025-2026

The BCHS Pediatric Optometry/Ocular Disease Residency is a full-time, 52-week residency program, beginning on July 1st and ending on June 30th of each residency year. The focus of the program is threefold: Clinical care, didactic education and scholarly activity. The resident is involved in patient care approximately 80-85% of the time. The resident is expected to have approximately 1,200 direct patient encounters by the end of the residency year, including approximately 700 pediatric/strabismus encounters. The remainder of the resident's time is devoted to didactic activities that take place either at BCHS or off-site. Clinical, didactic and scholarly activities specific to our program are listed below.

Typical Weekly Resident Schedule:

Some mornings, from 7:30 am to about 8:30 am, the resident attends lectures given by the faculty to the optometry and/or ophthalmology residents. After lecture ends, the resident is expected to attend clinic.

A typical weekly schedule for the residents includes clinic from 8:30am until approximately 4:30pm (including a lunch break) Monday through Thursday. On Friday the resident may have didactic/educational activities the whole day or they are clinic from 8:30am to 1:00pm, with didactic/educational time from 1:00pm to 4:30pm. The educational programs on Fridays will be held either with the BCHS faculty and will consist of case study discussions, journal clubs, literature reviews or lectures, or be held off-campus as part of the SUNY Friday program.

Additionally, hours for the On Call service are 4:30pm to 7:30/8am on Monday through Friday nights, 8am on Saturdays to 8am on Sundays and 8am on Sundays to 8am on Mondays. The optometry resident will be on call on average 4 days per month on a rotating basis with the ophthalmology residents and other optometry residents.

The location of the clinic that the resident is assigned to on a particular day is dependent on the resident's rotation schedule. The resident schedule consists of multiple rotations, each of which is between two and three months in duration. 75% of the resident's clinical time will be devoted to providing pediatric/strabismus eye care under the supervision of a pediatric optometrist or pediatric ophthalmologist.

Approximately 25% of the resident's clinical time will be devoted to primary care optometry or ophthalmology subspecialty clinics. When working in the primary eye care clinics, the resident will manage acute and chronic ocular diseases under the supervision of an optometry attending at the satellite clinics. The resident will also rotate through the ophthalmology subspecialty clinics (such as retina, cornea, and neuro-ophthalmology) at the BCHS Eye Care Center to enhance the resident's skill in the diagnosis and management of advanced ocular disease. During these rotations, the resident will spend on average one day per week in the sub-specialty clinics seeing patients under the supervision of the sub-specialty Ophthalmology Attending.

The schedule for Fridays is variable throughout the year due to the SUNY Friday Program. When the resident is not attending a SUNY Friday program off-campus, the resident sees patients in one of the BCHS clinics supervised by an Ophthalmology or Optometry attending. The afternoon session is spent attending BCHS Optometry Conferences with either the Residency Program Supervisors or other Optometry Attendings.

List of Clinical Activities:

- The resident will provide comprehensive and acute care exams to infants, toddlers, adolescents, and those with strabismus on average 3 days a week. Under the guidance of an optometrist and ophthalmologist specializing in pediatrics the resident will develop advanced clinical competency in:
 - Various techniques used to gather information on visual function and ocular health in pediatric patients and those with special needs
 - Routine and complex refractive cases
 - The diagnosis, treatment, and management of refractive, strabismic, and deprivational amblyopia
 - Binocular disorders
 - Accommodative esotropia
 - Non-refractive strabismus and motility disorders
 - Pediatric ocular conditions, syndromes and diseases

- To enhance the resident 's skill in the diagnosis and management of ocular disease, one to two days a week, the resident will rotate through, and provide care in, primary care optometry clinics with an emphasis on ocular disease or ophthalmology subspecialty clinics.
 - Subspecialty clinics include:
 - Retina
 - Neuro-ophthalmology
 - Cornea

- To enhance the resident's triaging skills, critical thinking skills and hands on clinical skills in the areas of acute, traumatic and emergency eye care, the resident will rotate through the On Call service on a rotating basis with the Ophthalmology residents.

- Under supervision of the clinical faculty, the resident will be trained in clinical skills such as:
 - Ocular emergency exams
 - Superficial ocular foreign body removal
 - Punctal plug insertion and removal
 - Three and four-mirror gonioscopy
 - Contact lens fundoscopy
 - Scleral indentation
 - Corneal culturing

- Under supervision of the clinical faculty, the resident will learn how to perform and/or interpret results from specialized diagnostic instrumentation used in primary eye care:
 - Digital fundus photography
 - Automated perimetry
 - Corneal pachymetry
 - Ocular coherence tomography (OCT)
 - Corneal topography
 - Intravenous fluorescein angiography (IVFA)
 - B-scan ultrasound
 - OCT Angiography

- The resident will also have the opportunity to observe ophthalmological surgical procedures as well as participate in inter-disciplinary rotations in other departments.

List of Didactic Activities:

- SUNY College of Optometry's Friday Program
 - Core Curriculum (required for all residents)
 - Workshop on Public Speaking
 - Writing Workshop (two sessions)
 - Practice Management Workshop
 - Grand Rounds/Lectures (minimum 35 hours)
 - Majors and Minors Presentations
- BronxCare Health System Ophthalmology Department morning lectures/literature reviews/journal clubs
- BronxCare Health System optometry conferences including journal club discussions, lectures, case discussions and literature reviews
- Attend the American Academy of Optometry's (AAO) Annual Meeting.
- Optional involvement in on-going research within the Ophthalmology Department at BronxCare

List of Scholarly Activities:

- Minor Presentation (20 minutes)
- Major Presentation (50 minutes)
- Submit an abstract for presentation at a major optometric meeting (i.e. AOA, AAO, SECO)
- Prepare a manuscript for publication in a peer-reviewed optometric journal.
- Varies by year: Case report presentation for the BCHS annual research symposium.