

Moorfields Eye Hospital & UCL Institute of Ophthalmology

*Professional Higher Certificate in Glaucoma –
September 2026*

COURSE INFORMATION LEAFLET

The information contained in this leaflet is correct when published but no guarantees can be given that it will not be amended before the commencement of, or during, the course to which it refers.

THE COURSE AIMS

The course is designed to build up from the Professional Certificate in Glaucoma to further develop skills in detecting change in clinical status and decision-making in patients at risk of developing glaucoma.

THE CURRICULUM

Following completion of the programme, you should be able to:

- Perform a gonioscopy examination of the anterior chamber angle
 - identify anatomical structures
 - grade the angle width
 - interpret the significance of clinical findings.
- Diagnose Ocular Hypertension (OHT) or Chronic Open Angle Glaucoma (COAG) through an integration of clinical observations/results of clinical investigations
- Make appropriate management decisions in a patient with OHT
- Monitor the response to treatment in a patient with OHT and modify the management plan or refer if necessary
- Be aware of the contraindications of anti-glaucoma medications and be able to detect and manage drug-induced side effects
- Inform patients of the rationale for monitoring their condition and an ability to explain the risk of developing glaucoma
- Counsel patients regarding the risk of blindness associated with glaucoma, risk to family members, and potential impact of the disease on lifestyle

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Possess a minimum of a BSc (Hons) in Optometry or Orthoptics *or equivalent*. Other qualifications may be accepted. Please enquire to determine whether you are suitable to apply.
- For those who choose to apply for the College of Optometrists qualification pathway:
 - Possess the Professional Certificate in Glaucoma and affix.

THE COURSE STRUCTURE

ONLINE TAUGHT COMPONENT

This will include online lessons, self-test activities, formative assessments and forum discussions. The online component will be delivered in the form of nine units of interactive lessons. You will have approximately 3 months to complete the online component.

At the end of each unit, you will be expected to carry out a self-test assessment or activity to reinforce what has been learned in that unit for which there will be instant feedback. In addition to this, you will be expected to carry out assignments. You will be expected to spend approximately 8 hours a week studying the online component.

SYNCHRONOUS ONLINE WEBINAR DAY

Online webinar lectures and tutorials to engage in conceptual thinking with the guidance of teachers will form the content of the synchronous online webinar day. This will be undertaken over a day, at the end of the online component.

SELF STUDY

You will then get 4-6 weeks after the synchronous online webinar day to revise what you have learned during the online component and synchronous online webinar day before undertaking the summative assessments.

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS (EXAMS)

After this stage, you will undertake summative assessments which will include written exams and objective structured station examinations. Results of the summative assessment will be released within 6 weeks of the written exam. Should you fail any component of the summative assessments, you would have to re-sit that component only. You would have one re-sit opportunity to complete the summative assessment and complete the course.

Optometrists will also be able to gain CPD points

COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRISTS ACCREDITATION

This course has been accredited by the College of Optometrists in the United Kingdom for GOC registered optometrists and Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) registered orthoptists only. You can gain the College's Professional Higher Certificate in Glaucoma on completion of this qualification and carrying out a clinical placement examining 150 suitable patients. Experienced practitioners can APL this component. You will be required to arrange the placement yourselves with your local Hospital Eye Department and arrange for a clinical mentor (Consultant Ophthalmologist) to support your placement.

In the United Kingdom, this qualification will give you the knowledge to participate in community or hospital-based schemes involving the diagnosis of ocular hypertension and preliminary diagnosis of chronic open angle glaucoma when not working under the supervision of a consultant ophthalmologist.

The College of Optometrists will provide full college members with a UK address a certificate upon completing the Professional Higher Certificate in Glaucoma. The college will not provide certificates to students who are international practitioners (non-UK, Channel Islands, or Isle of Man). Upon successful completion of the course, students will be provided a transcript of completion.

KEY DATES*

Launch of online course: Monday 7th September 2026

Synchronous online webinar day: Wednesday 2nd December 2026

Practical skills day: Wednesday 16th December 2026

Written exams: Wednesday 6th January 2027

Stations exams: Thursday 21st January 2027

*The above dates may change if there are circumstances beyond our control

FEES

£1,350.00

CONTACT DETAILS



**Moorfields
Education**

For further details contact:

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OPHTHALMOLOGY**