

Moorfields Eye Hospital & UCL Institute of Ophthalmology

*Professional Diploma in Glaucoma (Level 3) –
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

This course is designed to build up from levels 1 and 2 to further develop skills in detecting change in clinical status and decision-making in patients with established glaucoma of all types in adult patients.

THE CURRICULUM

Following completion of the course, you should be able to have:

1. An ability to take a comprehensive ophthalmic history in a patient with established glaucoma
2. An understanding of the use of perimetric techniques for the assessment of a patient with diagnosed glaucoma
3. An ability to detect disease progression by observation of the optic nerve head/nerve fibre layer and/or results of imaging/functional tests
4. An ability to monitor the response to treatment and modify the management plan if necessary
5. An understanding of the pharmacology, cautions, contraindications, interactions and side effects of anti-glaucoma medication
6. An understanding of the indications for, techniques, expected outcomes and complications of laser therapies and surgical interventions used in the management of glaucoma and its related conditions

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 (Level 1) and affix
 - Possess the Professional Higher Certificate in Glaucoma (Level 2) 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 ten units of interactive lessons. You will have approximately 8-10 weeks 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 particular 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 12 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 two days, at the end of the online component.

SELF STUDY

You will then get 4-6 weeks after the synchronous online webinar days to revise what you have learned during the online component and the synchronous webinar days 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 be able to gain continuing professional development (CPD) points.



This course has been accredited by the College of Optometrists for General Optical Council (GOC) registered optometrists and Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) registered orthoptists. You can gain the College's Professional Diploma in Glaucoma on completion of this qualification and carrying out a clinical placement examining 250 suitable patients. Experienced practitioners will be able to APL part of this placement up to a maximum of 150 patients. 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 for the management of patients with established COAG and other cases of glaucoma deemed suitable for management by optometrists e.g. treated angle closure, pseudo exfoliative glaucoma.

The College of Optometrists will provide full college members with a UK address a certificate upon completing the Professional Diploma 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 14th September 2026

Synchronous online webinar day: Tuesday 8th December 2026 and Wednesday 9th December 2026 (all day)

Written exam: Monday 18th January 2027

Stations exams: Tuesday 26th January 2027

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

FEES

£1,650.00

CONTACT DETAILS

For further details contact: Course Administrator:

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