



CHAITHANYA
INSTITUTE OF
OPTOMETRY & VISION SCIENCES

CIOVS



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PROSPECTUS FOR ADMISSION TO
BACHELOR OF OPTOMETRY (B.Optom)
2026-27 (DURATION 4 + 1 YEAR INTERNSHIP)

**CHAITHANYA INSTITUTE OF
OPTOMETRY & VISION SCIENCES**

(A Unit of The Chaithanya Foundation)

Affiliated to Kerala University of Health Sciences (KUHS)

Promoted by the Chaithanya Eye Hospital & Research Institute

TRIBUTE TO OUR FOUNDER



**Dr KGR Nair, Founder & Chairman
Chaithanya Group of Hospitals**

1943-2015

MS DO(London) FRCS(London) FRCS (Glasgow)
Ex Faculty, Queen Mary's Hospital, Kent
Ex Teaching Faculty, Al Ain University of Medicine, UAE

यद्यदाचरति श्रेष्ठस्तत्तदेवेतरो जनः ।
स यत्प्रमाणं कुरुते लोकस्तदनुवर्तते ॥

“Whatever a great person does, others follow.
The standard he sets becomes the guide for the world.”

Bhagavad Gita (3.21)

Though our beloved Founder and Chairman is no longer amongst us, he lives on through the values and vision he instilled. He showed us the path of dedication, integrity and vision — a path that we continue to walk with unwavering commitment. His ideals remain alive within us, inspiring every step we take toward excellence. We work to attain his dream of Giving Light,
• Protecting Vision and Spreading Hope.

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Brief History of Chaithanya Eye Hospital & Research Institute

The Chaithanya Eye Hospital & Research Institute (CEHRI) commenced functioning in Trivandrum from 26th October, 1995 under the able stewardship of its founder Dr. KGR Nair. Now, in its 30th year, this most modern, fully equipped, state-of-the-art, ISO 9001:2015 certified and fully accredited NABH Hospital is recognized for delivering the best eye care treatment and services to patients. The Hospital, under the guidance of its Medical Director and Managing Partner, Dr.R.Unnikrishnan Nair, MS,DO, DNB, FRCS (Glasg.), FMRF(SN),FVRS(AUST), is well known for its best-in-class facilities, latest treatment modalities, brilliant eye specialists, competent staff and well trained technicians.

In February 2024, we crossed another milestone when we were declared by Bureau Veritas as Asia's first eye hospital to obtain Green OT Certification. Today, with 12 branches across Kerala, we are one of the largest growing eye care networks in South Kerala.

OUR SPECIALITY SERVICES

Comprehensive Eye Care	Orbit and Oculoplasty
Cataract and Refractive Surgery	Uvea Clinic
LASIK and Refractive Surgery	Ocular Trauma and Emergency
Cornea Services	Neuro-ophthalmology
Vitreoretinal Services	Refraction & Low Vision Aids
Glaucoma Services	Contact Lens Services
Paediatric Ophthalmology	Community Ophthalmology
Squint and Orthoptics	Corneal Transplantation Unit



Message from the Managing Trustee, The Chaithanya Foundation

Dear Prospective Students,

Welcome to the Chaithanya Institute of Optometry & Vision Sciences, a proud initiative of the Chaithanya Foundation. The partners of the Chaithanya Eye Hospital & Research Institute conceived and registered The Chaithanya Foundation as a Charitable Society in the year 2022 with the noble objective of providing health science education for ensuring availability of well-trained skilled personnel, capable of offering their services to Hospitals. Thus, the Chaithanya Institute of Optometry & Vision Sciences, under The Chaithanya Foundation is a symbol of our commitment to fostering excellence in eye care education.

India is witnessing a growing demand for qualified optometrists and career opportunities are expanding rapidly, from clinical roles and specialty care to research, academia and even entrepreneurship in eye care. The possibilities are as vast as your ambition. Choosing a career in Optometry is not just a wise decision; it is a commitment to transforming lives by restoring one of our most precious senses ie. vision.

As the Managing Trustee of The Chaithanya Foundation, I am honoured to offer our B.Sc Optometry program, which is affiliated with the Kerala University of Health Sciences. At our institution, we offer more than just a degree. The students are offered access to highly committed staff along with the most modern equipment and cutting-edge technology available in the Chaithanya Eye Hospital. We offer a nurturing environment where science, compassion, and ethics come together to shape you into a competent and caring eye care professional. The B.Sc Optometry program is designed to provide a strong foundation in clinical skills, practical training, and holistic patient care — equipping you for success in hospitals, clinics, optical practices, community eye health programs and beyond.

Inspired by the vision of our Founder, Dr. K.G.R. Nair, we remain committed to his mission of Giving Light, Protecting Vision, and Spreading Hope. We carry forward his legacy by striving for excellence in education and service. When you join us, you become a part of this continuing journey — one that will shape not just your career, but also your character and contribution to society.

We look forward to welcoming you into our academic family.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Unnikrishnan Nair".

Dr. R. Unnikrishnan Nair,
Managing Trustee, The Chaithanya Foundation
Managing Partner, Chaithanya Group of Hospitals



Message from the Principal

Dear Students,

Welcome to the threshold of a profession that offers both deep purpose and vast potential. Optometry is not just a career; it is a calling — one where science, compassion and precision come together to restore the gift of sight and enhance the quality of life.

At Chaithanya Institute of Optometry & Vision Sciences, we are committed to providing a learning experience that is both rigorous and nurturing. Our B.Sc Optometry program offers a perfect blend of theoretical knowledge, practical training, and real-world clinical exposure. With dedicated faculty, well-equipped laboratories and access to advanced diagnostic and treatment facilities, you will be prepared to serve as a vital part of the eye care team.

We take pride in fostering a culture of integrity, curiosity, and service. These values are deeply rooted in the vision of our revered Founder and Chairman, Dr. K.G.R. Nair, whose guiding mission — Giving Light, Protecting Vision, and Spreading Hope — continues to inspire every aspect of our work.

We invite you to be a part of this journey — to learn, to grow and to lead with purpose.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "V. Sahasranamam". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Dr. V. Sahasranamam, MS DO

Principal



Vice Principal's Message

Dear Prospective Students,

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”
– Nelson Mandela



It is my privilege and honour to welcome you to the Chaithanya Institute of Optometry & Vision Sciences, an institution promoted by the Chaithanya Eye Hospital & Research Institute, through the Chaithanya Foundation - where your journey toward becoming a skilled and compassionate eye care professional begins. Our institution offers a full-fledged 4-year BSc Optometry degree course, affiliated with the Kerala University of Health Sciences (KUHS).

Optometry is a primary healthcare profession—one that demands not only clinical expertise but also a deep sense of empathy and responsibility. At the Chaithanya Institute of Optometry & Vision Sciences, we are committed to providing a transformative learning experience that blends academic excellence with extensive hands-on training. Your exposure to our state-of-the-art specialty clinics and equipment in the Chaithanya Eye Hospital Research Institute and Community outreach initiatives ensure that you graduate with both confidence and competence.

Education at our Institute goes far beyond textbooks and classrooms. It is about shaping your mindset, strengthening your values, and unlocking your true potential. Our objective is to nurture future optometrists who are not only knowledgeable, but also visionary, service-minded, and ready to make a meaningful impact in the world.

Our dedicated faculty and dynamic academic environment will support you every step of the way. We are excited to accompany you on this journey as you grow into a compassionate, confident, and dynamic professional.

With Best Wishes

Prof. R. Sivapriya., M. Optom, MBA, B.S. Optom
Vice Principal

Chaithanya Academics

Courses offered

START LEARNING TODAY
LEARNING WITH CHAITHANYA

B.Optom

Fellowship in Clinical Optometry

Clinical Internship in Optometry

DNB / PG Course



Chaithanya Institute of Optometry & Vision Sciences

The Chaithanya Eye Hospital & Research Institute through The Chaithanya Foundation established the Chaithanya Institute of Optometry & Vision Sciences, a teaching and training institution with Dr.V.Sahasranamam, MS,DO, Senior Consultant (Cataract & Pediatric Ophthalmology) as the Principal. Dr.V.Sahasranamam is a retired Professor of Ophthalmology under the Medical College, Trivandrum and was the Head of the Regional Institute of Ophthalmology, Trivandrum. The vast teaching and administrative experience of Dr. V. Sahasranamam will not only support students in their academic growth and inspire them to pursue excellence, but will also play a pivotal role in elevating the institution to greater heights.

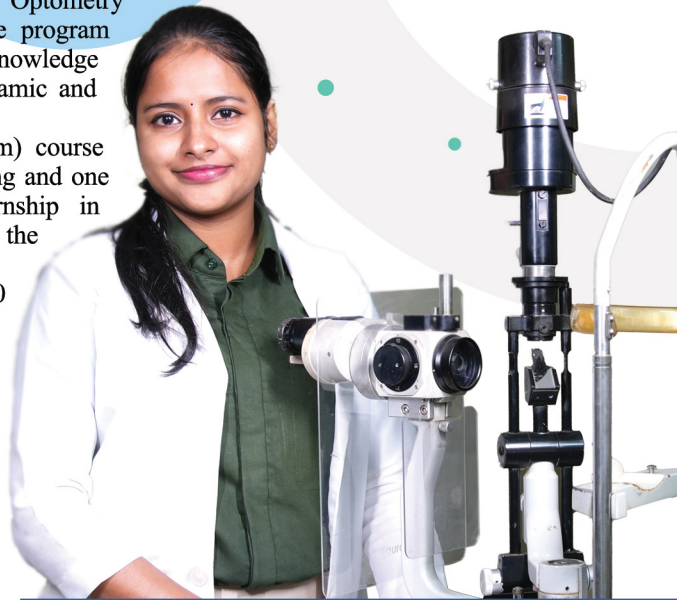


About Bachelor of Optometry (B.Optom)

The Chaithanya Institute of Optometry & Vision Sciences, Trivandrum is pleased to offer a 5-year undergraduate Bachelor of Optometry (B.Optom) which is a comprehensive program designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to excel in the dynamic and rewarding field of Optometry.

The Bachelor of Optometry (B.Optom) course includes four years of academic training and one year of compulsory rotational internship in various specialty departments of the Hospital.

The course has approximately 240 working days in a year with a minimum of 6 hours per day for theory and practical sessions ie 1450 working hours, per year (inclusive of examination). After the third year, the students have to undergo one-year rotatory compulsory internship in the various eye specialty clinics in the hospital. The course is approved by Government of Kerala and has been granted provisional affiliation by the Kerala University of



Who is an Optometrist ?

Optometrists are primary health care practitioners of the eye and visual system who provide comprehensive eye and vision care, which includes refraction and dispensing, detection/diagnosis and co-management of disease in the eye and the rehabilitation of conditions of the visual system.

Job Opportunities

The job sectors for optometrist can be divided into the following areas:

1. Corporate sector
2. Private practice
3. Public health
4. Industries/companies
5. Eye care hospitals & institutions
6. Education sector
7. Scientific research
8. Basic research and integrated professional area
9. Work for an optical chain or under an optical store

Roles and Responsibilities : OPTOMETRY

1. Examination, prescribing, management, and dispensing of various optical aids – spectacles, contact lens, low vision aids/assistive devices – for people of all age groups.
2. Diagnosis, management/co-management of ocular and related systemic diseases/conditions for people of all age groups.
3. Diagnosis and management of Non Strabismic/strabismic binocular vision anomalies through non-invasive procedures.
4. Eye care services at community level – examples: school screening, cataract screening, glaucoma screening, diabetic retinopathy screening, occupational optometry, Doorstep eye care.
5. Optometric/ Genetic counselling on eye care of patients with partial sight, including colour blindness and hereditary eye diseases.
6. Public education on eye care, ocular hygiene, nutrition and environmental effects on the eye.
7. Examination and visual rehabilitation of patients with low vision and profound visual impairment.

Key Features of the Course



Comprehensive Curriculum:

Covers all essential aspects of optometry including ocular anatomy, visual physiology, optics, clinical practice, and patient management.



Experienced Faculty

Learn from industry professionals with extensive experience in both clinical practice and research.



State-of-the-Art Facilities

Access to modern laboratories, advanced diagnostic equipment and a dedicated optometry clinic.



Hands-On Experience

Opportunities for clinical training and internships to gain practical experience and apply theoretical knowledge in real-world settings.



Research Opportunities

Engage in research projects and contribute to advancements in the field of optometry.



Hostel Facilities

Separate Hostels for Boys and Girls, at prescribed fees, with round the clock security available.

Facilities



Laboratory

The Optics Laboratory is the cornerstone of practical learning in our Optometry college and providing students with hands-on experience in understanding and applying optical principles essential to vision science. Equipped with advanced instruments such as spectrometers, Newton's ring apparatus, sodium and mercury vapor lamps, and a variety of concave and convex lenses and mirrors, the lab enables students to explore the behavior of light, lens properties, and image formation in a controlled environment.

Library

A library is where ambition meets inspiration—a quiet place where futures are built, one page at a time.

A well equipped library is a reflection of an institution's commitment towards education and research. Chaithanya offers a comprehensive collection of over 500 specialized books in Optometry & Ophthalmology. In addition to physical resources, the library provides access to a range of national and international journals, providing insights into the latest research and developments in the field. To support digital learning, the library offers e-books and online journals accessible through inhouse platform (Ikshana).



Subjects of study

The Course comprises of theoretical and practical studies in different branches of Optometry and its related subjects.

	General anatomy, Ocular Anatomy, General Physiology, Ocular Physiology, Physical Optics & Geometrical Optics, Biochemistry & Nutrition, Foundation course in pre clinical optometry & Allied health profession
	General & Ocular Pharmacology, General & Ocular Pathology, Microbiology, Sterilization & Theatre techniques, Clinical examination of Visual system & Eye instrumentation, Visual Optics, Optometric Optics, Practicals & Clinical Posting
	Eye disease, Contact Lens, Low Vision aids, Dispensing Optics, Binocular Vision, Community Optometry, Law & Optometry, Geriatric & Pediatric Optometry, Systemic Diseases, Epidemiology, Research methodology & Biostatistics, Project work & Clinical Posting
	Occupational Optometry, Community eye health and Tele- Optometry, Law and Professional Ethics- Optometry, Data Science for Health Care, Research Projects
	Clinical Internship & Speciality Clinics

ADMISSION PROCESS

Criteria of Eligibility for Admission

To verify the following

1. Holders of Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) Cards/Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) will also be treated at par with Indian citizens for the limited purpose of admission. **To examine whether they need to be reckoned as NRIs for fees collection purposes.**

2. Candidates should have passed Higher Secondary examination conducted by the Board of Higher Secondary Education, Kerala or examination equivalent thereto as approved by Kerala University of Health Sciences, Thrissur. The candidates should have separate minimum pass marks for Physics, Chemistry and Biology and 50% marks in Physics, Chemistry and Biology put together.
3. The candidate should be 17 years of age to be eligible for admission.

Mode of selection to the Course

The Chaithanya Institute of Optometry & Vision Sciences has been permitted to admit 25 students for the Bachelor of Optometry (B.Optom) course 2026

Government Seats: 13

Merit seats against which the Director, LBS Centre makes allotment are called 'Government Seats'. 50% of the seats are reserved under Govt. Merit Quota to be allotted by LBS Centre for Science & Technology.

Mode of Selection/Admission to Management Seats

Seats other than Government seats are called Management seats.

No. of Seats: 12 of which 3 seats (15% of total seat) reserved for NRI category)

Selection: Duly filled online application form must be submitted along with the required documents. Students will be selected based on their performance in the 12th standard for Science group. Post counselling, students can undergo the admission procedure. Refer annexure for important dates for admission procedure and year-wise fee structure.



■ Duration permitted for completion of the Course

As stated above, the duration of the course is 4 years + 1 year of internship. However, the maximum permitted period for completion of the course will be 8 years including internship. (Double the duration of the course period.)



Attendance

- Each student is required to put in at least 80% attendance in each academic year for theory and practical subjects separately. This requirement is mandatory and cannot be reduced under any circumstances including maternity/medical leave.
- Each candidate shall complete the prescribed course satisfactorily in order to be eligible to appear for the examination. The Head of the Institution should submit Attendance Performance Certificate (APC) for each candidate on the satisfactory completion of the course.
- Absence from classes shall be permitted only with valid leave letter counter signed by Parent/Guardian and Warden-in-charge.
- Medical Leave application should be submitted along with Medical Certificate.





Condonation of shortfall in attendance

- Condonation, up to a maximum of 10 per cent can be granted for shortage of attendance on genuine grounds for subjects (theory/practical/both), once during the entire course period. The Principal is empowered to grant the condonation on recommendation by the Head(s) of the department under intimation to KUHS along with the prescribed fee.
- Along with the application for Registration in the Examination, the Principal shall give an Undertaking that the candidate has not availed this exemption previously.
- A Register showing the details of Condonation granted shall be maintained in the Office of the Principal which shall be subject to verification by Officers authorized by the University.



Information to Candidates – Rules & Regulations

All students admitted to the institute will be governed by the rules and regulations that are prescribed from time to time.

College Timings and Attendance Policy

The official working hours of the college are from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. However, during the final year, students will be posted for internships in various specialty clinics and outpatient departments, where the working hours will be extended from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM, depending on clinical schedules. A minimum of 80% attendance in each subject and more than 50% marks in internal examination is essential to qualify for every year university examinations

Dress Code & Identity card

Students must attend college and clinical postings wearing the official uniforms and identity card provided by the institution. As they are expected to operate in a professional clinical environment, adherence to a formal dress code is mandatory at all times. Students will not be allowed to enter the college and clinics without the identity card.

Instruments

All students are required to compulsorily possess a retinoscope by the beginning of the second year. It must be carried regularly during all clinical postings, hospital visits, and practical sessions.

Log book

Students are expected to maintain a log book for all the practical and clinical sessions they attend with relevant details. The log book should be submitted whenever asked and before the examinations.

Leave

Students are advised to give prior information to the college authorities about their leave/ permission failing which strict disciplinary action will be taken. Medical Certificate need to be produced from a Registered Medical Practitioner in case of leave availed for more than 2 days.

Holidays

As prescribed by the Government of Kerala / KUHS from time to time.

Sunday Postings

As part of their training, students will take part in community out reach programs, including Sunday camps and OPD activities. Attendance is compulsory, and leave will not be granted for students assigned to these activities.

Anti-Ragging & Student Conduct Policy

In alignment with the directives of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and the University Grants Commission (UGC), our institution enforces a zero-tolerance policy towards ragging.

All students and their parents/guardians are required to submit an online anti-ragging undertaking each academic year through the official portal: www.antiragging.in. This affidavit affirms the student's commitment to abstain from any form of ragging and acknowledges the consequences of such actions.

To ensure a safe and supportive environment, the following mechanisms are in place: National Anti-Ragging Helpline: Students can report incidents anonymously by calling the 24x7 toll-free number 1800-180-5522 or emailing helpline@antiragging.in.

Our institution is dedicated to upholding the highest standards of student conduct and ensuring a ragging-free environment. All students are expected to adhere strictly to these guidelines.



PREVENTIVE MEASURES AGAINST RAGGING

PREVENTIVE MEASURES AGAINST RAGGING

According to the Kerala Prohibition of Ragging Act, 1998, 'ragging' means doing of any act by disorderly conduct to a student of an educational institution, which causes or is likely to cause physical or psychological harm or raising apprehension or shame or embarrassment to that student and includes teasing or abusing or playing practical jokes or causing hurt to such students or asking a student to do any act or to perform something which such student will not in the ordinary course be willing to do.

All institutions will have to abide by the directives of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, Dated May 16, 2007 in SLP No. (s) 24295 of 2006 *University of Kerala Vs Council, Principals, Colleges, Kerala & Ors* [with SLP (C) No. 24296-99/2004 & W.P. (CrI) No. 173/2006 & SLP (c) No. 14356/2005] and the recommendations approved by the Honorable Supreme Court of India on effective prevention of ragging in educational institutions.

In case, the applicant for admission is found to have indulged in ragging in the past or if it is noticed later that he/she has indulged in ragging, admission may be refused or he/she shall be expelled from the educational institution. It shall be the collective responsibility of the authority of the institution to see to it that effective steps for preventing ragging are taken. Anti-ragging committees and anti-ragging squads will have to be formed to take effective measures against ragging and they should adhere to the stipulations and effectively monitor and comply with the directives. Each of the student of the institution and his/her parents, or guardian are required to submit a combined undertaking at the time of registration/admission in prescribed format which is mandatory for registration / admission.

**ADMISSION SCHEDULE FOR PARAMEDICAL COURSES FOR THE
ACADEMIC YEAR, 2026-27**

SL NO.	EVENT/PARTICULARS	IMPORTANT DATES
1	ISSUE OF APPLICATION	24.08.2026
2	LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION	10.09.2026
3	PUBLICATION OF RANK LIST	11.09.2026
4	PUBLICATION OF FIRST ALLOTMENT LIST	12.09.2026
5	DATE OF JOINING AND FEE REMITTANCE	15.09.2026
6	PUBLISHING THE JOINING AND NON JOINING CANDIDATE LIST	16.09.2026
7	PUBLICATION OF SECOND ALLOTMENT LIST	17.09.2026
8	DATE OF JOINING AND FEE REMITTANCE	22.09.2026
9	PUBLISHING THE JOINING AND NON JOINING CANDIDATE LIST	23.09.2026
10	PUBLICATION OF THIRD ALLOTMENT LIST	24.09.2026
11	DATE OF JOINING AND FEE REMITTANCE	28.09.2026
12	PUBLISHING THE JOINING AND NON JOINING CANDIDATE LIST	29.09.2026
14.	SPOT ADMISSION, IF ANY	PRIOR APPROVAL FROM THE COMMITTEE

CHECKLIST FOR ENCLOSURES DURING ADMISSION

1. Copy of Certificate to prove date of birth.
2. Original & Self attested copy of 10th Std marksheet
3. Original & Self attested copy of 12th Std marksheet
4. Certificate in proof of nativity - submit any one of the following (Admission under Keralite category) • True copy of relevant page of Secondary School Leaving Certificate showing the place of birth in Kerala • True copy of the relevant page of the passport of the candidate • A certificate of birth from the authority competent to register birth • A certificate from the Village Officer/Tahsildar
5. Original Transfer Certificate
6. Copy of Community Certificate
7. Copy of Income Certificate in the prescribed format
8. Migration Certificate for other State's candidate
9. Medical Certificate for fitness
10. Passport-size photographs - 5 Nos.
11. Copy of Aadhar Card
12. NRI Quota: • Sponsorship Certificate on Stamp Paper Rs. 200/- duly attested by Notary • Attested copy of the Passport of the Sponsor The attested copy of the relevant page of the passport where employment visa is stamped and if it is not submitted the employment certificate duly attested by the Indian Embassy or Consulate • Relationship certificate from the Village officer Late or defective applications will not be considered under any circumstances. Certificates without the signature of the issuing authority or that are incomplete will be treated as defective and such certificates will not be considered for granting any claim.

Prospectus and Application Form

Prospectus and Application form can be obtained only through online mode at <https://chaithanya.org/professional/student/StudentRegistration>

We look forward to welcoming you to the Chaithanya Institute of Optometry & Vision Sciences and supporting you in your journey to becoming a skilled and compassionate optometrist.

For Details, contact

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Kesavadasapuram,
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Email: info@chaithanyafoundation.org

