

# *Certificate Course in OPTICAL DISPENSING*



## Introduction

Uncorrected refractive errors are a significant cause of avoidable visual disability, especially in developing countries. Lack of awareness compounded by the non-availability / inaccessibility of affordable optical services has been indicated in WHO surveys of blindness and visual impairment worldwide. Uncorrected refractive errors could lead to amblyopia in children and may lead to visual loss. Such avoidable blindness can be easily prevented by wearing appropriate spectacles. WHO has taken serious steps by launching vision 2020 and advocating training for optometrists and opticians to combat this type of blindness.

## What is optical dispensing?

Optical dispensing is a subspecialty of optometry which includes all procedures from the time the glass prescription is presented to the optician till the patients receives the pair of glasses satisfactorily.

## Needs and Importance of the Optician

A trained optician is required for the management of avoidable blindness by means of modern scientific dispensing. Aravind Eye Care System offers advanced training in optical dispensing and trains the optical technicians in a well equipped optical training centre. The objective of this course is to develop the opticianary skills and knowledge for quality vision care services.

## Aravind Eye Care System

Aravind is a social organization committed to its goal of eliminating needless blindness through its network of six hospitals, extensive community outreach activities and providing over 20% of its services completely free of cost.

## Aravind plays an important role in Ophthalmic Training

The education and training programmes at Aravind Eye Care System are intended for all levels of training of ophthalmologists, optometrists, ophthalmic assistants and ophthalmic technicians.

## AUROLAB

The manufacturing division of Aravind Eye Care System, functions with the aim of providing the high quality spectacles at affordable prices. Aurolab, also produces IOL, ophthalmic pharmaceuticals and suture needles.

## Target Group

This short term course is conducted only for the candidates sponsored from an eye hospital or NGO. The candidate must have passed in higher secondary exam and have a working knowledge in basic English which will be the common medium of the course.

## Expected Outcomes

After the completion of this course the candidate will be able to;

- Guide the patients to choose the suitable frames and appropriate lenses for their visual needs
- Measure the lens power by lensometry
- Do lens glazing by manual process
- Troubleshoot the problematic spectacles
- Do the frame measurements, centering and decentering
- Inspect the lens defects
- Organize the optical service in community outreach programmes

## Course content

- The principles and systems of optical dispensing
- Optical systems and refractive states of the eye
- Instruments used in optical dispensing services
- Optical counselling and after sales service
- Lens and frame purchase and inventory management

## How will you learn?

- Training Methodology
- Lectures
- Observation in Optical Sales
- Hands-on training
- Group discussion, situation analysis study, seminars and case presentation
- Outreach camps

## Evaluation Pattern

- Maintaining log book
- Weekly evaluation.
- Practical Examination
- VIVA VOCE
- Final Exam (Theory & Practical)

## Who can attend ?

This training is designed for para –ophthalmic professionals with a desire to increase their knowledge and clinical skill along with an attitude towards planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating activities towards carrying out the refraction practice efficiently.

## Eligibility Criteria

The candidate must have passed in higher secondary exam and has a working knowledge in basic English which will be the common medium of the course. Also the candidate should have one year experience in the field of Ophthalmic.

This short term course is conducted only for the candidates sponsored from an eye hospital or NGO. This course is open to all countries in South East Asia Region & Africa. Admission is limited to 5 participants per batch & selection will be made on first come first basis subject to meeting the eligibility criteria.

## When to come?

- 3 months course is offered twice a year, in January and September

## Where to stay?

### Accommodation

Inspiration: Accommodation can be arranged at Inspiration - Aravind international trainee's hostel. It is a comfortable and quiet place within a five minute walk of the hospital and classrooms. It offers common spaces where you can relax and chat with your classmates from all over the world. Please note down the facilities and tariff details by viewing the [inspiration brochure](#).

Food: Food will be served at Inspiration with the cost of Rs.180/- per day.

Please note: on Sundays, the mess will be closed for Lunch and Dinner. Participants are requested to have food at outside hotel. However there are good restaurants located nearby Inspiration (walkable distance).

## Where to come?

The course will be held at Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai, India. It is equipped with classrooms, lab and facilities for group discussion.

Madurai is well connected by air, rail & road to Chennai, Bangalore, Bombay & Trivandram; nearby tourist attractions include Kodaikanal (a hill resort), Rameswaram (a temple town), Thekkady (a game sanctuary) and Kanyakumari (the southern most tip of India). The climate is pleasant during January and rain is rare at this time of the year. The days are generally warm & nights are comfortable.

Email facilities are available at LAICO building. The participants can use this facility during the break times.

## How to pay?

### Course Fee

Participants from India and Nepal must pay a Rs. 25,000/- course fee. All other overseas participants must pay US \$1250. In addition, 18% of GST is applicable to the course fee. The course fee includes tuition fee, teaching materials, tool kits during the course.

The course fee has to be sent upon receipt of the invoice about confirmation of your selection. Candidates from India and Nepal can pay as demand draft in favour of Aravind Eye Hospital payable at Madurai. Overseas candidates can pay through wire transfer; the details will be given in the invoice.

## How to apply ?

Applicants are requested to download the application forms from our website [www.aravind.org](http://www.aravind.org) and send the completed form to the course coordinator.

In case of difficulty in downloading the form you can contact the course coordinator to get the forms by mail/post . Status of the application form will be intimated two- three weeks after the receipt of the application form.

### For further details contact

Training Coordinator

Aravind Eye Hospital

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