

Certificate Course for Vision Technicians

July/November



Need for the Course

Globally there is a huge need for providing primary eye care to rural population and often it depend on camps and Primary health centres. However dedicated permanent eye care facility can address this holistically and ensure coverage for everyone in its service area. Hence Aravind started establishing vision centers in rural areas since 2004 and so far with 108 vision centres it covered 10 million population and examined more than 4 million unique patients.

A vision centre is a primary eye care centre that would serve a rural population of 50,000 – 70,000 on permanent basis. The functions of vision center are

- Comprehensive Eye examination.
- Helping the patient to interact with ophthalmologist in the base hospital through teleconference about the diagnosis and treatment.
- Diagnosis and treatment of simple eye conditions.
- Delivering spectacles to correct refractive errors.
- Diagnosing cataract and other specialty eye problems and referring the patients appropriately to the base hospital.

To perform the functions of the vision center effectively, it is important to build the skill competencies of refractionists to diagnose eye conditions and help patient get treatment appropriately at Vision centres. Aravind with the above objective started this course in 2014 and so far more than 400 participants benefitted.

What will you learn from the Training?

- Examine and find the eye condition by using Slit lamp bio microscope and other equipment
- First aid and handling emergency patients
- Perform basic outpatient procedures
- Fundus examination and evaluation
- Check vital signs and do simple lab tests
- Do EMR coding for eye diseases diagnosed
- Teleconsultation with the Ophthalmologists at Base hospital for expert advice.
- Counseling skill for explaining patients about the diagnosis and treatment to increase the Uptake
- Process and dispense spectacles
- Hands on training on Vision Centre Management software
- Hands on training at vision centre to perform the role of Vision Technician independently
- Report generation from VCMS software
- Using of data for further improvement
- Store fundus photos in the suitable format for dissemination and future use
- Using GIS to collect relevant information
- Organize outreach programmes with the support from base Hospital

How will you learn?

Training Methodology

- Situation analysis study, seminars, Lectures and demonstrations on case presentation
- Videos and PPTs
- Maintaining log book
- Guided hands-on-training

Evaluation Pattern

- Weekly evaluation
- Practice sessions
- Practical Examination
- Postings at Vision centres and camps for real world
- Final Assessment (theory and Skills) experience

Who can attend?

This training is designed for refractionists working in Eye hospitals / governments who are intend to start Vision centres or Primary eye care centres in their service area.

Optometrists / Ophthalmic assistants those who want to upgrade their knowledge and clinical skills beyond refraction with a desire to support their eye hospitals in diagnosing and managing common eye conditions.

Eligibility Criteria

- Should have proficiency in doing subjective refraction.
- Working knowledge in Basic English.

This course is open to all countries in South East Asia Region & Africa. Admission is limited to 10 participants per batch & selection will be made on first come first basis subject to meeting the eligibility criteria.

When to come?

- 2 months course is offered twice in a year, July and November
- The upcoming course is scheduled from July and November 2023

Where to stay?

Accommodation

Inspiration: Accommodation can be arranged at Inspiration - Aravind international trainee's hostel.

Where to come

The Course will be held at Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai, India. It is fully equipped with class rooms, Lab and facilities for Teaching, Training and discussions.

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

Course Fee

Participants from India and Nepal - INR 23,600/-
For overseas participants - US \$590.
Inclusive of 18% GST

How to apply :

Applicants are requested to download application forms from our website www.aravind.org and send the completed form to the course coordinator

If 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.

Contact

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Course Faculty

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