

Why the Institute of Opticianry & Technology?

IO Tech was created to offer a virtual, comprehensive, multilevel approach to learning opticianry. The Virtual Opticians Learning Track's curriculum was developed based on the need for a program that mirrors traditional in-person instruction. We believe all opticians should have access to a formal standard of education, in-person or online. Short-term knowledge acquisition to survive in a retail role cannot produce the long-term results necessary to reduce redo rates, comprehend Rx analysis and function at a high-performance level that translates into best patient care and retention.

What Makes IO Tech Different?

We are opticians training opticians—we know what you need to learn and how to:

- Provide a sequential learning process at the most granular level possible
- Test comprehensions and provide solutions to difficult problems before you get to Unit Exams
- Introduce information that makes sense as part of the eyecare and vision care team
- Real life practice role-modeling where you learn the how and the why of product selection

We keep the fundamentals where it belongs and industry products and resources in a Track all on its own. We truly are dispensing opticians that collaborated with the best in education and media learning analysts to produce **VOLT—the Virtual Opticians Learning Track**.

New to this Learning Space:

BONUS TRACK

Created to introduce our candidates and sponsors to the latest in technology for products, services and resources available in our industry. This is presented as an ungated Track for immediate review upon purchase.

Additional Program Features

Office Hours—Included.

Over the course of the program, ten, 30-minute sessions are included.

Optional Add-On:

More support time for tutoring is available, if needed.

Optional Mentor Track:

Available to provide mentors access to instructional materials, including lessons, practice tests, and solutions.



Contact us!

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IO Tech
Institute of Opticianry
& Technology

Virtual Opticians Learning Track (VOLT™)

Your Future, Our Vision
www.IOTechOnline.org

Who is VOLT For?

The Learner: a candidate seeking a comprehensive understanding of the basics to mastering optics, opticianry and beyond. Whether the candidate is enrolled in an apprenticeship or requires an adjunct to their current dispensing program, IO Tech will meet their individual needs. Our goal is to educate, empower and support the learner at every level of their career. *Our Student Track is for you!*

The Sponsor/Mentor has an obligation to ensure the learner is provided with the training necessary to achieve successful completion of their apprenticeship. IO Tech wants to support the sponsor that may need a refresher or an additional in-depth review. Advisors who provide guidance and support may also benefit from revisiting the material from the perspective of a new learner. *Our Mentor Track is for you!*

How VOLT Bridges the Gap—In-person to online

- **Extensive ABO & NCLE preparation**—questions with solutions to problems in real time. Removes the guesswork to which equation and why
- Self-paced—online & interactive that mirrors and compliments in-person education
- 5 Learning Tracks, 138 lessons, plus extensive instructional videos on tools and adjustments—much needed lessons
- Sequential and gated units to progress forward
- Over 1,000 questions
- Rx analysis and lens designs broken down in the simplest form
- Comprehensive Contact Lens Unit included but optional
- End of Unit Tests & Final Exam to earn a Certificate of Completion in Ophthalmic Dispensing and optional Contact Lenses
- Facilitator sessions by appointment, included
- Bonus Track for exposure to high performance products and services, included

Decoding Prescriptions through Rx Analysis

The screenshot displays the 'IO Tech Unit 4 Module 3' interface. It features three diagrams illustrating different refractive states: Emmetropia (no refractive error), Myopia (nearsightedness), and Hyperopia (farsightedness). Each diagram shows light rays entering the eye and how they focus on the retina. A sidebar on the left lists various modules, and a teal callout box on the right states: 'We believe in empowering our apprentices with a deep understanding of Rx analysis, which leads to more effective care. This understanding reduces redo rates and develops opticians' confidence to ensure accurate visual outcomes for patients.'

Understanding Prisms and their Useful Application

The screenshot shows the 'Understanding Prisms' section. It includes diagrams of minus and plus lenses, and a detailed diagram of a prism with its apex, base, and light ray path. A teal callout box on the right states: 'Understanding prisms can be one of the most difficult concepts to learn, which is why we have an entire section dedicated to it.' Below the diagrams, there is an 'Example #1' section with a calculation: 'Given the following Rx: OD -4.00 -2.00 x 90, OS -3.00 sph. What is the prism effect of glasses dispensed to a patient if the PD of the spectacle is 74 mm as opposed to the ordered PD of 68 mm?' The solution shows the calculation: $PD \text{ error} = 74 \text{ mm} - 68 \text{ mm} = 6 \text{ mm} = 0.6 \text{ cm}$, then $0.6 \text{ cm} \times 3 = 1.8 \text{ cm}$, and finally $1.8 \text{ cm} \times 3 = 5.4 \text{ cm}$.

Bonus Track

The screenshot displays the 'IO Tech Bonus Track' interface. It features a dashboard with several modules: 'Electronic Measurements', 'Digital vs Manual Measurements', 'Capturing Patients Posture', and 'Digital Dispensing'. Each module has a brief description and a 'Learn More' button. The interface is clean and modern, with a teal header and a white background.



Immediate Feedback & Solution

- We facilitate learning through immediate feedback during practice sessions.
- “Battle testing” through practice questions is crucial to enhance the learner’s ability to master the complexity of the content.

Mentor Track

- Same version of the program to provide mentors access to instructional materials
- Same lessons and practice tests with solutions as available to learners
- In-depth review of theory and principles of foundational science and mathematics
- Two years of access to support multiple learners
- Extended access is available

Reporting & Analytics Program-Level

- Monitoring to inform continuous progression within the program

Reports for Sponsors

- Upon request & candidate approval