

Transfer Credit Policy

Overview:

Upon request, the College will review applications for transfer from students who enrolled in other accredited schools or colleges of optometry. NECO requires that all students (including transfers) complete the regular four-year optometry degree admissions process. Transfer students must be willing to complete the application process through OptomCAS and to be considered to start as a new first-year student. If a transfer student is accepted to NECO, they may then work with the Dean of Academic Affairs to apply for advanced standing.

Required Documents:

- Completed OptomCAS application and all NECO application materials including standardized test scores.
- Official transcripts from any and all undergraduate and postgraduate programs including your current optometry program.
- Three letters of recommendation.
 - One from a faculty member,
 - one from an OD and
 - one from the Dean at your present optometry school providing official acknowledgement of your request for transfer and certification of good academic standing.
- A personal statement demonstrating a compelling need to transfer to complete your optometric education.
- Course descriptions are not required upfront, but may be requested on a case by case basis to help determine eligibility for transfer credit.

Deadline: NECO reviews applications on a rolling basis with a final deadline of March 31, 2022.

Upon acceptance to the four-year program, a transfer student may apply for advanced standing at NECO, which would include an interview with the Dean of Academic Affairs. The Office of Academic Affairs will then conduct a transfer credit evaluation, in tandem with the Academic Department Chairs. This evaluation will show the courses that have been approved for transfer credit. Courses considered for transfer credit must meet the following requirements:

- Comparable in breadth and depth to those in the preprofessional studies of New England College of Optometry's Four Year Doctoral Program.
- Comparability is determined by the Dean of Academic Affairs/Office of Academic Affairs in collaboration with the Program Directors, and faculty in related discipline(s). Course descriptions may be requested by these offices to help determine transfer credit eligibility.
- In some cases, the Dean of Academic Affairs may require an applicant to sit for a proficiency examination in order to demonstrate proficiency.
- Successfully completed courses with a grade of C (2.0) or better at a regionally accredited college or university. (International college credit is not transferable).
- Completed within the last 10 years at the time of enrollment.
- Approved classes for transfer will be recorded on a student's official transcript via the College Registrar. The Registrar's Office will add the transfer credit evaluation to the student's permanent record.
- Academic Affairs will create a modified program letter for the student to follow as they progress through their program. This will also be added to the student's permanent record.
- All decisions made by the Dean's Office regarding transfer credit are final.

Financial Aid:

Students that are eligible for financial aid are encouraged to apply by following this link:

<https://www.neco.edu/admissions/financial-aid>