Ophthalmic Dispensing Program Mission
The mission of the Ophthalmic Dispensing program is to prepare graduates to be professional manufacturing and dispensing opticians. The program consists of systematic instruction in all aspects of work in the profession. The program includes instruction and laboratory training in contact lens skills, eyewear dispensing skills, lens finishing techniques, lens surfacing, as well as in sales techniques, basic business operations and communications. Instructions in low vision aids, prosthetics, and physician assisting skills is also covered.

The program curriculum is designed to assist the student to be successful with national certification and state licensure examinations.

Licensing Regulations for Opticians in Nevada
Upon graduation from the program, individuals who wish to gain licensure as an optician in Nevada must; take the American Board of Opticianry Competency examination, the National Contact Lens examination, complete a one year apprenticeship, and take the state board exam. The one year apprenticeship can be completed while an individual is a student in the program. Information concerning state licensure may be obtained from the Nevada State Board of Dispensing Opticians. The requirements for licensure in other states may vary. Interested individuals should contact the program director for details.

Ophthalmic Dispensing Examination Pass Rates
A.B.O. (National) 100%
N.C.L.E. (National) 100%
NV State Board 88%
All rates as of 2014/2015

Career Opportunities
Employment for ophthalmic dispensers (opticians) is expected to increase faster than the average for all occupations through the year 2020. An increase in demand for corrective lenses is expected due to growth in the population of middle-aged and older adults.

Program Description
The Ophthalmic Dispensing program at CSN is a two-year program of study leading to an Associate of Applied Science degree. The curriculum provides didactic and clinical or hands-on training. It offers the student the opportunity to become proficient in all phases of ophthalmic dispensing.

Approximate Costs
Tuition:
73 credits X $90.00 per credit hour.............$6570.00
Books..................................................$500.00
Lab Tools..............................$50.00-$75.00
Lab Fees..................................................$15.00-$50.00/per lab
Lab Coat....................................................................$25.00-$45.00
CPR Certification.............................$50.00-$75.00
Physical Exam..................................$50.00-$75.00
Immunizations..................................................$0 - $600.00
Urinalysis Screen..............................$30.00
Official Background Check..........................$50.00
Medical Insurance......................$20.00 - $190.00/month
Applying only if you are presently uninsured
College Application Fee.................................$10.00
One time, non-refundable fee charged to new students only.
Non-Resident Fee................................$3322.50 per semester
This is in addition to the tuition and technology fee and is assessed to nonresident students enrolling in 7 or more credit hours.

Acceptance
The CSN Ophthalmic Dispensing program is accredited by the Commission on Opticianry Accreditation. The address is:
Commission on Opticianry Accreditation
Director of Accreditation
PO Box 592
Canton, NY 13617

Average Nevada Hourly Median Salary...............$18.19
Source: “EyecareProfessions.com”
Average National Yearly Salary......................$45,000.00
Source: “Salary.com”

The information provided in this literature is for advisement purposes only
College of Southern Nevada, Health Programs Advisement office, 6375 West Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89146, Phone: (702) 651-5690
OD-CG Fall 2018- 6/17