Awards, Honors and Scholarships

Indiana University Doctor of Optometry (OD) students are eligible for a number of awards and honors, including cash, plaques, equipment, expense-paid trips, and other rewards for excellence. Consideration for awards vary—some require a specific application, while other awards are made via faculty or student nomination. Recipients are selected based upon the criterion of the award and are decided by various factions: the Awards & Honors Committee, consensus of clinical faculty, a vote of instructors, staff, and peers, or nationwide competitions. Students are notified by the Chair of the Awards and Honors Committee of Scholarship opportunities and deadlines.

FOURTH YEAR

Andrya Lowther: Awarded to a student in good academic standing and with a record of humanitarianism or service to community. The recipient is a current third or fourth year student and is selected by the Awards and Honors Committee.

Brett Swanda: Awarded to an entering fourth student with a cumulative 3.2 GPA who demonstrates financial need and has the attitude and work ethic of Brett Swanda.

COVD Award for Excellence in Vision Therapy: Awarded by The College of Optometrists in Vision Development, recognizes the COVD student member who is graduating and has demonstrated a strong interest and clinical skills in the area of vision therapy. (Plaque)

Jack Bennett Humanitarian Award by the Indiana Optometric Association: This award recognizes distinguished contributions in service to humanity and the profession of optometry. The recipient is a current third or fourth year who demonstrates the qualities of leadership, the dedication to community and professional service, and the humanitarian citizenship characterized by the late Dean Jack W. Bennett. Nominations are solicited from the faculty. The recipient is determined by the Awards & Honors Committee. (Plaque and recognition at the IOA Annual Convention in April)

Dr. James D. Hurt Scholarship: Awarded to a fourth year student who demonstrates interest in ocular disease and service to the underprivileged. Requires 200-300 word essay describing past experiences and future desire to serve the less fortunate. Preference given to applicants with Christian mission experience.

Dr. James O. Hormuth Scholarship: Awarded to a fourth year student with interest in ocular disease, minimum GPA of 3.5 and a record of excellence and engagement in the field of optometry.

James L. Short O.D. & Patricia L. Short Award: This award will be given upon graduation for a student entering into private practice (individual or group practice). Intention must be documented to the Awards and Honors Committee.

John P. Davey and Roy E. Denny Award by the Indiana Chapter of the American Academy of Optometry: Requires an outstanding paper on a clinical topic. Winner is selected by the Awards & Honors Committee

J. Patrick Cummings by Vistakon and the American Optometric Foundation: Requires excellence in clinical contact lens patient care and a commitment to serve the individual needs of patients.

J. Thomas Eade, O.D. Fund: Per the preference of the donor, this award is to support students involved in humanitarian optometric endeavors as it relates to their clinical experience.

William Feinbloom Low Vision Award by Designs for Vision, Inc: Requires excellence in low vision course work and low vision clinic care. Nominated by Low Vision faculty. (Plaque and low vision trial set valued at $2,500)
Dr. Henry Hofstetter Scholarship Award: Awarded to student demonstrating leadership and service to their class. Nominations are solicited from 4th year students and recipient selected by the Awards & Honors Committee.

David H. Kolack, O.D. Award by the family of David H. Kolack, O.D. ('69): Awarded to the graduating OD student with the highest grade point average at the end of seven semesters.

Marchon Eyewear Practice Management Award by Marchon: Awarded to student demonstrating outstanding clinical and dispensing skills. Nominations by clinical faculty and dispensary staff.

Silver Medal Award by Beta Sigma Kappa, the international optometric honor society: Awarded to the graduating student with the highest grade point average who is a current Beta Sigma Kappa member. (Engraved medallion)

Varilux Student Grant Award Program by Essilor of American and Varilux: Third and fourth-year students submit case reports on patients with Varilux lenses. Maximum length is 2,000 words. Awards and Honors Committee selects paper to submit nationally.

**THIRD YEAR**

Alice J. Bennett Fellowship: Awarded to an Indiana student whose class rank is the highest for the third year class at the end of the fall semester; who has not received a class rank award.

Andrya Lowther: Awarded to a student in good academic standing and with a record of humanitarianism or service to community. The recipient is a current third or fourth year and is selected by the Awards and Honors Committee.

Barbara (Bobbie) Abrams Scholarship in Optometry: Awarded to the third year student who is ranked in upper 5% of their class.

Charles R. Schick Scholarship: Awarded to a third year student who receives the highest grade in V752, confirmed by the faculty of record.

E.F. Wildermuth Foundation Harriet Slaughter Scholarship: Awarded to the third year student that is ranked first in their class at the end of fall semester, third year.

Jack W. Bennett Endowed Scholarship: Awarded to a third year student who is in good standing and demonstrates financial need. The recipient is determined by the Awards & Honors Committee.

Jack Bennett Humanitarian Award by the Indiana Optometric Association: This award recognizes distinguished contributions in service to humanity and the profession of optometry. The recipient is a current third or fourth year who demonstrates the qualities of leadership, the dedication to community and professional service, and the humanitarian citizenship characterized by the late Dean Jack W. Bennett. Nominations are solicited from the faculty. The recipient is determined by the Awards & Honors Committee. (Plaque and recognition at the IOA Annual Convention in April)

Dr. and Mrs. Lewis Scott Scholarship: Awarded to the third year student who is ranked in upper 5% of their class at the end of fall semester, third year.

Dr. Seymour Galina Grant by the American Optometric Association: Third-year students are eligible to apply. Must submit a paper not exceeding 1500 words on the following topic: "The qualities I have developed through my financial planning/work experience during and/or before optometry school which I believe will be most useful to me establishing an ethical/professional optometric practice." Applicant must exhibit financial need and
submit through the Office of Student Administration. Applicants must also be an AOSA member in good standing.

**Dr. Victor and Janice Malinovsky Scholarship/Malinovsky Award:** Awarded to a second year student with the highest grade in V644 - Ocular Disease course; given as third year.

**Heart of America Contact Lens Society:** Applicant must have completed at least one Contact Lens class and submit a publishable paper on the topic of any aspect of contact lenses or optometry. Applicant must also be a resident of one of the following states: Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Missouri, or Arkansas. Applicant must also submit a short essay on the topic of "Why I chose optometry as a profession" and three letters of recommendation. *Deadline is around November 15.* ($2,000 per national winner; five winners total)

**John Hitchcock Memorial Scholarship:** Awarded to a 3rd year student who received the highest grade in V654 as confirmed by the faculty of record. ($300)

**Robert W. Bumbleberg:** Awarded to a third year student that is ranked in upper 5% of their class at the end of fall semester, third year.

**Rogers W. Reading Endowed Award:** Awarded to the third year student who received the highest grade in V666 as confirmed by the faculty of record.

**Joseph Elmer Sidwell and Trula Sidwell Hardy Scholarship:** Awarded to the third year student that is ranked in upper 5% of their class at the end of fall semester, third year.

**Varilux Student Grant Award Program** by Essilor of American and Varilux: Third- and fourth-year students submit case reports on patients with Varilux lenses. Maximum length is 2,000 words. Turn in papers to Office of Student Administration. *Deadline is around March 1.* ($1000 to IU winner and entry into national competition)

**Vision Service Plan Scholarship:** Five exiting third year and entering fourth year students demonstrating excellence in primary eye care services and also in the top half of the class are nominated by clinical faculty to compete. Two recipients are selected by the Awards & Honors Committee and receive a stipend and travel fellowship to the AAO.

### SECOND YEAR

**Aaron Wernimont Memorial Scholarship** Awarded second semester of second year. Candidates are nominated by classmates and are required to have a GPA of 3.5, with final selection made by the Awards and Honors Committee. Given at the annual White Coat Ceremony.

### FIRST YEAR

**Jane Hofstetter American Foundation for Vision Awareness – Indiana Affiliate:** Awarded to a first-year optometry student with the top GPA at the end of the first semester who is an Indiana Resident. Recognition at the IOA Annual Convention in April.

**Class of 1959 Scholarship:** Awarded to the top entering student based on academic rank and OAT scores. Renewable each year (maximum of four years) provided that the student maintains a 3.2 cumulative grade point average.

**Paul Pietsch Scholarship:** Awarded to the top student in Neuroanatomy with the highest course grade in Ocular Biology. Faculty of record provides student name.