

What's the difference between eye care professionals?



Optician

- Training varies by state
- Fills vision prescriptions; makes glasses and may fit contacts



Optometrist

- Medical professional (doctorate degree in optometry)
- Performs annual eye exams
- Can fit glasses and contacts
- May refer patients to ophthalmologist for more intensive procedures



Ophthalmologist

- Medical doctor (Doctor of Medicine or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine)
- Performs annual eye exams
- Can fit glasses and contacts
- Can perform eye surgeries