

01: Introduction To OAT Physics

Key OAT Terms

OAT: Optometry Admission Test is a standardized exam required to gain admission to optometry school.

Composite Score: A test-taker's overall OAT score.

Reading Comprehension: Passage based questions which relate to information in an accompanying passage as well as your own knowledge. Typically 3 passages having 15 or more questions per passage.

OAT Composition: Survey of Natural Science, Reading Comprehension, Physics and Quantitative Reasoning.

AOA: American Optometric Association, information on careers in optometry.

ASCO: Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry, information on OAT registration and application to schools of optometry.

Prometric Test Centers: are the sites that actually administer the OAT exam. You can find their locations at their website or by calling the phone number provided to you by ASCO upon OAT registration.

OAT

Registration: You may take the OAT almost any day of the year and it administered by Prometric at their test locations, www.prometric.com.

You may register: on line, through your college advisor or paper application.

Test Sections: Survey of the Natural Sciences, Reading Comprehension, Physics, Quantitative Reasoning.

After you register for the OAT: you will be given instructions to call a Prometric Testing Center to schedule a test date.

Scoring: Sections are independently scored ranging from 200 – 400. Within the Natural Sciences segment each topic will receive an independent score as well. Scaled scores and percentile ranking are provided to the optometry schools.

OAT Natural Science: Physics

- 50 minutes
- 40 multiple choice questions.
- The **areas of focus include:**
 - Vectors
 - Linear kinematics
 - Statics & Dynamics
 - Rotational motion
 - Energy and momentum
 - Wave functions
 - Thermodynamics
 - Electrostatics
 - DC circuits
 - Magnetism
 - Optics

- Subject mater focus areas are shown in this image.
- To master your weak areas use the Rapid Learning multimodal learning tutorials. Remember to listen to the mp3 recordings as a supplement.
- Take practice tests to identify your weaker Physics areas and then focus on those to begin.
- Get clarification for all "partially understood" or incompletely comprehended material.

OAT Test Layout & Overview

Tutorial: 15 min.

Survey of Natural Sciences: 90 min., 100 Items

Reading Comprehension: 50 min., 40 Items

Optional Break: 15 min.

Physics Test: 50 min. 40 Items

Post-Test Survey: 10 min.

Pre-testing: up to 25 min.

Total Time: 275 – 300 min.

Mastering the OAT

Time Management: Make OAT mastery your "Project". As in all projects set milestones and intermediate goals. Oat project management includes: budgeting your time set a study and test practice schedule and then stick with it.

Study only the Physics topics tested and focus on weak areas.

Translate concepts into formats easy for you to remember e.g. diagram equations & their meaning.

Generalize concepts when ever possible.

Get answers to anything not absolutely clear.

Practice: problems and tests from many different sources.

Review what you have learned often and on a set review schedule. Use cheat sheets and flash cards to facilitate reviewing.

Test-Taking Strategies

Know The Test: its layout and establish a timing strategy before you take the actual exam.

Arrive early with required materials.

Build test taking focus so you are not distracted in the new environment. If distracted, pull back to regain focus.

Smart Test Taking & Educated Guessing

- Zoom In On The Answer,
- Think of the answer first, and then scan the choices.
- Beware the familiar and the absolute.
- Deal with similar or opposite answer choices.
- Use Educated Guessing.
- Never leave a question blank. Guess instead.
- Eliminate incorrect answers to improve guessing odds.

Multimodal Learning

Use as many of your learning senses as you can for rapid mastery, deep learning and maximal retention of material.

The most effective way to master chemistry is to engage all the areas of your learning mind.

Written practice enhances learning.

Using the Rapid Learning narrated tutorials images (visual) and words (audio) are used facilitate the quick understanding and mastery of a topic.

How to Use This Cheat Sheet: These are the keys related this topic. Try to read through it carefully twice then recite it out on a blank sheet of paper. Review it again before the exams.