**Student Information**

A career in Ophthalmology is very unique within the many sub specialties in Medicine. The eye can be affected by many clinical conditions as well areas surrounding it. In order to successfully manage the health of your eyes Ophthalmologists are responsible for combining the diagnostic and therapeutic abilities of a physician as well as technical skills of a surgeon since many components of the eyes are transparent.

Eye disorders and other visual problems cause reduction in vision. Therefore, Ophthalmologists have the unique ability to restore the sense of sight in some patients for example through laser surgeries geared at removing Cataracts. The field of Ophthalmology is seeing much technological advancement in the way eye care is treated in recent times, and it is continuing to advance quite rapidly. These developments include optical instruments have geared at clearly magnifying microscopic parts of the eye so that it can be visibly observed. Enhancements in instruments used to conduct microsurgical procedures have resulted in Ophthalmologists being able to conduct surgeries that would have been considered almost impossible in the past.

Students graduating in the field of Sciences from their respective High School in the Caribbean can pursue specialization in Ophthalmology at any one of the three University of the West Indies campuses located in Trinidad, Barbados and Jamaica.

Students must first enroll to the university’s Faculty of Medical Science for a Bachelor’s of Medicine Degree. Applicants to the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) programme must be at least 18 years of age in the year of admissions. Applicants must satisfy the relevant minimum entrance requirements, either at normal or lower level, before being considered for admission.

**Academic Requirements**

1. Mininum of five CXC, CSEC or GCE O-level subjects in English Language, Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics;
2. Passes in two two-units of Biology, Chemistry and one other two-unit CAPE or A-level subject; or,
3. A Basic Sciences degree with credits obtained in Biology and Chemistry and one other subject. Applicants MUST complete both units to be considered eligible.

**Non-Academic Considerations**

* All candidates are required to submit a short (300 words or less) autobiographic sketch outlining the reasons for their career choice.
* Candidates must also produce evidence of their involvement in relevant extra-curricular/co-curricular activities, socially-oriented projects and voluntary community service in the year prior to their application.
* The University which granted the degree is recognised as competitive
* Credits have been obtained in Biology and Chemistry
* A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 or its equivalent has been obtained