

Certified Ophthalmic Medical Technologist Certification Requirements (COMT)

To qualify for certification at the COMT level, you must meet one of the following four options:

TG1. GRADUATE OF A FORMAL TRAINING PROGRAM AND TWO OR MORE YEARS OF COLLEGE EDUCATION¹

- Graduated from a CoA-OMP or CMA accredited program for Ophthalmic Technologists within the 12 months (one-year) prior to submitting your application. The Performance Test application and all examinations must be completed within 36 months (three-years) of initial application. *(Candidates who attend a formal training program may apply for the certification exam up to two months prior to graduation from the program; however, no examination results will be sent by JCAHPO to the candidate until official notification of graduation is received).*
- If you completed the program more than 12 months (one-year) ago, you will need to earn 12 JCAHPO Group A credits for each year following graduation. These credits must be earned within the 36 months (three-years) prior to submitting your exam application.
- Successful completion of two or more years of college and/or university-level courses (90 quarter or 60 semester credits).
- No work experience is necessary.

TG2. GRADUATE OF A FORMAL TRAINING PROGRAM WITH LESS THAN TWO YEARS OF COLLEGE EDUCATION AND WORK EXPERIENCE

- Graduated from a CoA-OMP or CMA accredited program for Ophthalmic Technologists within the 12 months (one year) prior to submitting your application. The Performance Test application and all examinations must be completed within 36 months (three-years) of initial application. *(Candidates who attend a formal training program may apply for the certification exam up to two months prior to graduation from the program; however, no examination results will be sent by JCAHPO to the candidate until official notification of graduation is received).*
- If you completed the program more than 12 months (one-year) ago, you will need to earn 12 JCAHPO Group A credits for each year following graduation. These credits must be earned within the 36 months (three-years) prior to submitting your exam application.
- Worked at least 4,000 hours 24 months (two-years full-time) under ophthalmologic supervision.

TG3. CURRENTLY CERTIFIED AS A COT AND WORK EXPERIENCE

- Worked at least 6,000 hours (three-years full-time equivalent) as a COT, under ophthalmologic supervision.
- Earned 12 JCAHPO Group A credits within the 12 months (one-year) prior to submitting your exam application.
- Maintained certification as a COT while pursuing COMT certification.

TG4. CURRENTLY CERTIFIED AS AN ORTHOPTIST AND WORK EXPERIENCE

- Worked at least 4,000 hours (two-years full-time equivalent) as a CO or OC(C), under ophthalmologic supervision within the 60 months (five-years) prior to submitting your application.
- Earned 12 JCAHPO Group A credits within the 12 months (one-year) prior to submitting your exam application.
- Maintained certification as an Orthoptist (by the American Orthoptic Council or the Canadian Orthoptic Council) while pursuing COMT certification.

COMT Multiple-Choice Examination Content Areas

Please refer to Appendix A to review the content areas.

¹ Individuals who graduate from an accredited formal training program at the Technician or Technologist level are eligible to apply for a lower-level certification under the formal training program eligibility option. For example, graduates of an accredited Ophthalmic Technician program may choose to apply for certification at the Ophthalmic Assistant level. Likewise, graduates for an accredited Ophthalmic Technologist program may choose to apply for certification at the Ophthalmic Assistant or the Ophthalmic Technician level. CoA-OMP - Committee on Accreditation for Ophthalmic Medical Personnel; CMA - Canadian Medical Association; CAAHEP - Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs