



Optical Laboratory Specialist (68H)

Everyone needs proper eye care, and Army Soldiers aren't any different. Fortunately, quality optical care is one of the health services provided to Army personnel all over the world. As an essential member of the optical laboratory technician team, Optical Laboratory Specialists make and repair eyeglasses that are provided for Army personnel.

The Optical Laboratory Specialist is primarily responsible for assembling eyeglasses that utilize pre-surfaced single-vision lenses. Some of your duties as an Optical Laboratory Specialist may include:

- Surfacing prescription lenses
- Assembling prescription eyeglasses
- Repairing and making eyeglasses
- Supervising optical laboratory personnel

REQUIREMENTS

Some specialties require successful completion of high school algebra for entry.

TRAINING

Job training for an Optical Laboratory Specialist consists of nine weeks of Basic Training, where you'll learn basic Soldiering skills, and 24 weeks of classroom instruction, including practice in making and repairing optical devices. Course content varies depending on specialty, but typically includes laboratory-operating procedures. Part of this time is spent in the classroom and part in the field.

HELPFUL SKILLS

Helpful attributes include:

- An interest in biology, chemistry and industrial arts
- An ability to use precision tools and instruments
- An interest in work requiring attention to detail
- An ability to follow detailed instructions and work procedures

ADVANCED RESPONSIBILITIES

Advanced level Optical Laboratory Specialists supervise and train other Soldiers within the same discipline. As an advanced level Optical Laboratory Specialist, you may be involved in performing prescription-related administrative duties.

RELATED CIVILIAN JOBS

The skills you learn as an Optical Laboratory Specialist will help prepare you for a future as an optical laboratory technician, an optician or an ophthalmic laboratory technician in civilian optical laboratories or retail optical offices.

Through your extensive Army training and experience, some additional study and two years of recommended experience, you'll have the opportunity to take the National Opticianry Competency Exam, which will allow you to possibly pursue a career as an optician.

RELATED ARMY POSITIONS

Pharmacy Specialist (68Q)

Medical Laboratory Specialist (68K)

Radiology Specialist (68P)

Information about this MOS provided by: www.goarmy.com

For further information visit: www.minnesotanationalguard.org