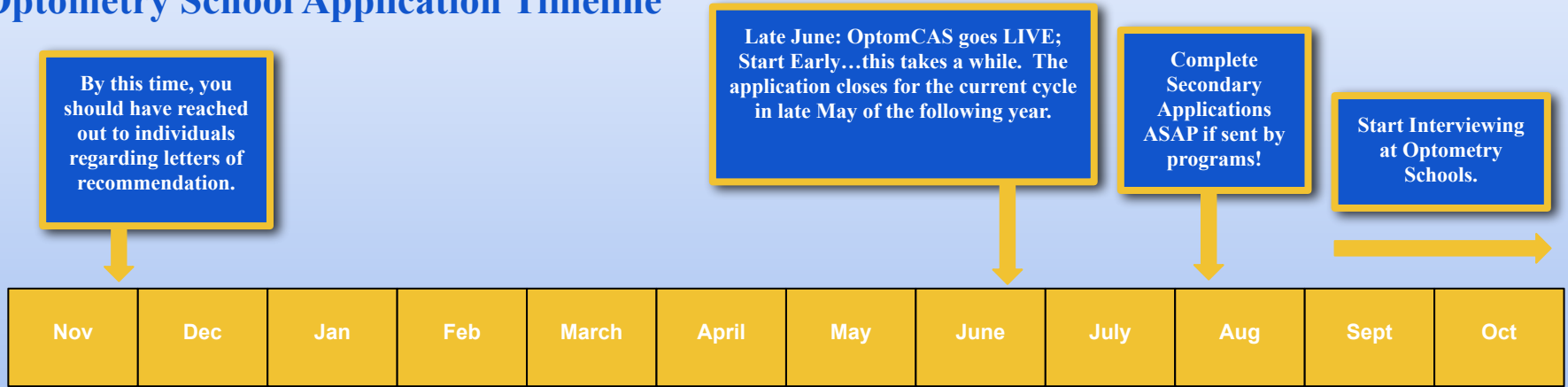


Optometry School Application Timeline



Fall prior to App. Year

Application Year: Winter - Spring - (Fall may be in either final year at UCSB or First Gap Year)

Factors to Consider Before Applying

- Competitive GPAs:** Cumulative GPA and science/BCPM GPA both at or above 3.5? If not, may consider post-bacc. programs.
- Competitive OAT Score:** Composite score at or above the national average of accepted students (AA:324, TS: 317)? If not, retake?
- Extracurricular Involvement**

Shadowing: Able to shadow a variety of professionals in various settings?

Clinical Experience: Work or volunteer experience, ideally with direct patient contact?

Volunteering (Non-Medical): Any service or volunteer work in the local community or your hometown?

Research: Did you participate in undergraduate research?

Other (Student org. involvement, non-medical work, athletics, study/travel abroad, etc.)

- Personal Statement:** Draft or Final Draft completed?

- Letters of Recommendation:** Requested and tentative date of application has been communicated to writers?

Remember, quality is always better than quantity, and long-term involvement is usually more meaningful than short stints.

Schools are able to access your application for review once it has been submitted and is complete.

OAT test dates run year-round, but be mindful of individual program deadlines.

UC Santa Barbara

Health Professions Advising

