Graduation Tips

Sharon Lee, O.D.
Pacific Eye Specialists
After graduation

- Fingerprinting (Live Scan)
- California O.D. license
- DEA number
- UPIN number
- VSP provider membership
- Malpractice insurance
Fingerprinting

- Locate a LIVESCAN facility:
  - [http://caag.state.ca.us/fingerprints/publications/contact.htm](http://caag.state.ca.us/fingerprints/publications/contact.htm)
  - Appointments recommended
Live Scan Fees

- 2 fees, both paid to facility
  1. Facility Fee (varies~$20.00)
  2. California Optometric Licensing Fee (~$ 42.00)
California License

- Application Form
  - [http://www.optometry.ca.gov/](http://www.optometry.ca.gov/)
  - Licensee/Applicant Information
  - Instructions for Completing Application for Licensure
Application Requirements

1. Fee for application: $275.00
2. Official Transcript
   - After final grades and O.D. degree
   - Sent directly to the board
3. All Board Exam Results
4. A 2x2 passport like photo within 6 months
First Renewal of License

- Renewal fee is $300.00
- License expires every 2 years
- Requires current CPR certification
- CE not required unless you have had the license greater than 1 year
CALIFORNIA BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

- 400 R Street, Suite 4090
  Sacramento, CA 95814
  (916) 323-8720 or
  (800) 547-4576
  Fax: (916) 445-8711
  email: optometry@dca.ca.gov
DEA License for Optometrists

- Call DEA at 1-800-882-9539 for an application or go online:
  - [https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/webforms/app224Login.jsp](https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/webforms/app224Login.jsp)

- Need to have your O.D. license number
DEA Application

- DEA form 224
  - mid-level practitioners
  - only have access to Schedule III Narcotic drugs
  - ~$390.00
UPIN Numbers

- Fill out form 855I and depending on the office setting also an 855R
- For enrollment information and application:
VSP Provider

- Need before you apply:
  - UPIN number first
  - Practice location and work there at least 16 hrs/ week

- To obtain application:
  - Call VSP
  - Email: networkdevelopmentrequests@vsp.com

- Website: http://www.vsp.com/
Other Insurance Providers

i.e.

- Medicare
- Medi-cal
- Blue Shield
- United Healthcare
Malpractice Insurance

- There is part-time insurance if you work under 20 hrs or full-time insurance
  - Part-time ~$365.00
  - Full-time ~$465.00
- Malpractice insurance will become effective once payment is received
Job Searches

- UC Berkeley Website
  - Look before graduation
  - Go on interviews before graduation
- Other school websites
- COA website
- Instructors
- Local Societies
- HMOs, Commercial, Private, Research, Self
Pay Expectations

- In the Bay Area
  - Per diem pay ~$250.00 - $325.00+ independent contracting
    - Pay your own taxes (quarterly)
    - No Health Insurance, benefits, retirement
    - Lunch and Break laws don’t have to apply
    - Provide your own malpractice insurance
    - More tax write-offs
Salary Expectations

- Taxes taken from paycheck
- Depending on employers and hours may have health, retirement, benefits
- Set lunch and break times
- Usually covered by employers malpractice
- Less tax write-offs
When Negotiating

- Take into account:
  - Expectations of you
  - Workload
  - Patient load
  - Job duties
  - Responsibilities (staff, optical, billing)
Expectations

- Try to negotiate incentive pay with bonuses
- Be creative, take a percentage of gross collections
- Negotiate Vacation (pro-rated if not full-time)
Don’t get discouraged

- Keep sending out your resumes with cover letters
- One subbing job may lead into something permanent or can domino into another position
- Work experience may be important, but word of mouth can outway experience
Thank You for Staying!!!

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