This package offers you information about your program of interest and how OzTREKK will get you there. From application to acceptance to Australia, OzTREKK gives you the low down about going Down Under to reach your educational goals.

Inside you will learn about:

> Doctor of Optometry
> OzTREKK Scholarships
> Insider Info.

OzTREKK educational services
102 Sumac Lane
Perth, Ontario K7H 3C7
Canada

Toll-free phone 1 866 698-7355
Toll-free fax 1 866 698-7311
info@oztrekk.com
www.oztrekk.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About OzTREKK ..........................................................2
OzTREKK scholarships ................................................3
The University of Melbourne ......................................4
Graduate School of Science ...........................................5
Program Overview .........................................................6
Optometry FAQs ........................................................9
Study in Australia FAQs ...............................................10
How to apply ..............................................................11
Contact us .................................................................12
OzTREKK is an application and information centre for Canadian students considering studying at select Australian universities. We’re a Canadian company based in Perth, Ontario, midway between Ottawa and Toronto.

What OzTREKK can do for you
- We will guide you through your university and program options
- We will help you through the application process and share our knowledge about how your specific program’s admission process works
- We’ll keep you constantly informed about the status of your application and student loan documentation.

We’ll let you know about your student financing options, the student visa process, your housing options in Oz, and how to make your travel arrangements.

How can OzTREKK offer free services?
The select Australian universities we work with pay us because OzTREKK makes the application process easy and efficient for you, and for the universities. They’ve chosen us as their Canadian representative because they know that we’re experts in matching what you need to what they offer. So the universities encourage you to apply through OzTREKK. This OzTREKK information package is just one example of the many kinds of information you can get only if you apply through OzTREKK.

So why did Beth and Matt start OzTREKK in 2002? Basically, because of our own university experiences in Australia and Canada. As international students, we struggled to find info about, and anticipate, the “ins and outs” of both the universities and programs in which we were interested. Throughout the application, pre-departure and orientation processes, it never cease to amaze us how difficult it was to obtain either “plain language” info or sound advice. It was this sense of bewilderment that led us to countless discussions of how applying and preparing to study overseas could be less complicated. Those discussions led to OzTREKK.

To access OzTREKK’s free services, you must submit your university applications directly to OzTREKK.
OzTREKK’s scholarships

Receive a $500 scholarship - simply by applying through OzTREKK!

When Beth and Matt started OzTREKK, one of their major goals was to be able to provide scholarships to support OzTREKK students.

Why?
As former international students, Beth and Matt know that every little bit of funding helps when you are studying. They each paid their own way to study overseas, and had to access loans and work part-time during their studies to make it happen. Because we’ve been there, done that, we created the OzTREKK Scholarships Fund. We hope that OzTREKK Scholarships help you in a small way, to further enjoy the experience of a lifetime that comes as an international student in Australia.

How much?
Each OzTREKK student who qualifies for an OzTREKK Scholarship will receive one $500 scholarship during the first year of study. The OzTREKK Scholarship will be paid directly towards your Australian university tuition.

How do I qualify?
To obtain an OzTREKK Scholarship, you must:
1. Submit your Australian university application directly to the OzTREKK office; and
2. Accept your Australian university program offer through OzTREKK; and
3. Commence your Australian university program during the 2011 or 2012 academic year.

That’s it?!
Yes! No essays, no reference letters, no additional applications to complete and no fine print. It’s that easy.

“OzTREKK really made everything so much easier. Matt was wonderful both to myself and my partner who came with me. Matt stayed on top of my application every step of the way and really helped me get here. It’s so nice to know that if I have a question I can e-mail you guys. The support is awesome!”

S. Scratch UWO graduate
OzTREKK student
University of Melbourne Masters/PhD
Why choose the University of Melbourne?

ACHIEVE OUTSTANDING CAREER OUTCOMES
Melbourne graduates are prominent in political, cultural, academic and business arenas throughout the world.
High-profile employers from Australia and overseas actively recruit our graduates, who stand out for their problem-solving skills, capacity for independent critical thought and leadership potential.
The University of Melbourne is rated in the top 10 for employability of graduates*. International employers often rank our graduates as significantly stronger applicants in comparison to local and other applicants.
Demand for our students is reflected in the large number of jobs placed through Careers Online (the University’s job vacancy site). Over 49 000 graduate vacancies and internship opportunities were advertised on this site in 2007 with close to 14 000 advertisements placed by international employers. International organisations recruiting on campus include Accenture, IBM, KPMG, Macquarie Bank and PriceWaterhouseCoopers.
Employers know that our graduates will be academically excellent, knowledgeable across disciplines, fluent between cultures and active global citizens, with the potential to be leaders in their profession and community.
www.services.unimelb.edu.au/careers
* Times Higher World University Ranking 2009

OUR COMMUNITY – YOUR STUDENT EXPERIENCE
Our campus is a hive of activity
The University is just a short walk from Carlton’s stylish Lygon Street, not far from the bohemian Brunswick Street and the diverse and quirky Sydney Road.
Talented people from all over the world come to study, work and visit at the University of Melbourne. At last count, the University’s student community of 45 000 included more than 10 000 international students from at least 100 different countries.
Our learning community and curriculum is internationally and culturally diverse. Melbourne students are active in clubs, sport and community service. Diversity is valued, multiculturalism is celebrated, and the integrity of the individual is respected. Melbourne is credited as one of the world’s most liveable cities*, a World Health Organization safe community^, and is a safe place to live and study.
If you are keen on sport and fitness activities they can be part of everyday life at our Parkville campus. You will have access to fitness classes, gym and swimming pool facilities, as well as a variety of competitive team sports.
Here you will have the opportunity to make lifelong friends from around the globe. We invite you to become part of this thriving community.
www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/about/life
www.thatsmelbourne.com.au
www.sports.unimelb.edu.au
* Economist Intelligence Unit, London
^ World Health Organization
ABOUT THE SCHOOL
The University of Melbourne has been pioneering scientific
discovery for more than 100 years. The schools' strengths lie in
biological, chemical, earth, mathematical and physical sciences,
information systems and optometry.

The Melbourne Graduate School of Science is home to a
community of scientists engaging in the most diverse range of
scientific disciplines in Australia. The school is consistently ranked
among the top universities in Australia for its scientific research,
and is one of a select few Australian universities to rank among
the best in the world. Its awarded teaching and research staff,
innovative training programs, high-achieving student body
and extensive resources enable the school to pursue its aim of
educating scientists who are capable of playing leading roles in
research or industry.

Research facilities are also amongst the best in Australia as the
Melbourne Graduate School of Science is located in one of
Australia's most research-intensive areas known as 'the Parkville
Precinct'. The Parkville Precinct is home to major centres of
medical and bio-scientific research, clinical practice, education,
pharmaceutical production and biotechnology application
investigation.

DEPARTMENT OF OPTOMETRY AND VISION SCIENCES
The Department of Optometry and Vision Sciences is one of
the nine academic departments within the Faculty of Science at
the University of Melbourne, and is one of only three Australian
Universities to offer an Optometry degree. The Department
currently comprises twenty-five academic staff and eight
professional staff. Approximately 50 casual academic staff also
participate in the teaching activities of the Department. The
Department has an annual core-operating budget in the order of
$2.5 million. The Department attracts approximately $1.2 to $1.5
million in external competitive research income each year.

The Department has a vigorous research program in vision
sciences with particular emphasis on the research areas of i) the
biological foundations of ocular disease; ii) ocular growth and
refractive development; and iii) visual neuroscience and visual
neuropysiology. It offers courses of training by research leading
to the degrees of PhD, Master of Optometry or Master of Science,
and currently has about 25 students pursuing research higher
degrees.

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE EYECARE CLINIC
The Department operates the University of Melbourne Eyecare
practice, which provides eye care services for university staff,
students and the general public. It is a full-scope optometry
teaching practice, which is just like a normal retail professional
practice that encompasses all aspects of modern optometry, but
with a few more consulting rooms.

The clinic runs four consulting rooms deploying the range
of consulting room equipment regularly found in private
optometric practices augmented by cutting edge equipment not
normally available. Images, plots and other data from diagnostic
equipment is stored digitally. Wireless networked touch-
screen notebook computers in each consulting room equiped
with Sunix Vision practice management software link to this
repository enabling a totally digital practice record system.
ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Melbourne has traditionally offered optometry as a five-year undergraduate degree program, the Bachelor of Optometry. Under the Melbourne Model it will offer a Doctor of Optometry, a graduate-entry program culminating in a higher and more prestigious qualification, which was introduced in the 2011 academic year.

The new graduate program in Optometry is the only program of its kind in the southern hemisphere, and will emphasize advanced clinical practice, research readiness and leadership.

Building on bioscience knowledge from a prior undergraduate qualification, the course will prepare the student for full-scope clinical practice and patient management, including ocular therapies.

COURSE STRUCTURE

The course will begin with an integrated biological and biophysics program, including visual optics, which leads to the understanding of fundamental aspects of ocular function in health and disease and the ability to manage ocular defects.

Early clinical experience will be a feature of the program and will build, in a structured way, communication and clinical reasoning skills.

The later years of the course will consolidate bioscience knowledge to promote advanced clinical skills with a strong emphasis on evidence-based practice.

Broad clinical experience will be achieved by providing an unparalleled range of rural and metropolitan placements and international externship opportunities. The course will provide excellent employment prospects and align with a major international qualifications.

The Melbourne Doctor of Optometry graduates will combine depth and breadth of optometric practice knowledge. Students will:

- participate in a rigorous graduate-level learning experience, which fosters the development of sophisticated clinical skills and a respect for the value of evidence-based practice;
- be trained to work in an ever-changing and complex environment which utilize leadership and clinical skills;
- be eligible to register to practise as a therapeutically endorsed optometrist in Australia, and to register to practise in several overseas countries.

The combination of a student’s prior undergraduate degree with this professional degree will give them the ability to recognize and accommodate a range of perspectives, values and beliefs for the purpose of providing quality healthcare to enhance the lives and wellbeing of the community. Students will also be equipped to take a leadership role in the optometry profession.

*Accreditation applications will be submitted to the relevant local and international boards in accordance with their guidelines.*
Career Outcomes

International experience has shown that graduates of a Doctor of Optometry degree are in high demand in the work place.

Employers and clinicians repeatedly rate University of Melbourne optometry graduates highly.

Graduates from the Doctor of Optometry will be eligible to practise in Australasia following registration with the relevant Registration Board.

*Accreditation applications will be submitted to the relevant local and international boards in accordance with their guidelines.
DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY ADMISSION INFORMATION

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Completion of an Undergraduate Degree
Applicants must have completed at least a three-year bachelor’s degree (or equivalent) which includes:
- one second- or third-year level subject (or approved equivalent) in anatomy or cell biology; plus
- two second or third year subjects (or approved equivalent) from one or more relevant biological science disciplines.

An applicant’s marks will be evaluated based on their last two years of their undergraduate program. The second last year of the bachelor’s degree will count for one-third of the assessment, while two-thirds of the evaluation will be based on the applicant’s final years marks.

Write the OAT or MCAT
Applicants will also be required to complete either the GAMSAT (Graduate Australian Medical School Admissions Test) or the OAT (Optometry Admission Test, North America), or Medical College Admission Test (MCAT).

Submit a Personal Statement
Applicants must provide a written statement (of no more than 500 words) in support of your application. The personal statement should explaining why you want to undertake this program. The School is looking for original and heartfelt statements, and applicants will also be assessed on their ability to articulate their points, and communication skills will be assessed based on the personal statement.

Meeting the Requirements
As this is the first time the OD program will be offered, a minimum GPA or GAMSAT/OAT requirement was not set. However, please note that selection into the OD is expected to be highly competitive due to the limited number of places available.

Application Timeline
Application deadline: October 31, 2011 for the 2012 intake.

“I’m in Australia now and love it! Thanks for all your efforts in helping me prepare for this big step. I’m just in the middle of settling in, going to orientation and meeting lots of people. Everyone and everything in Australia is wonderful. I have no doubts that I really am going to enjoy my four years here. I am so excited that I am at a loss for words!”

Angela Santos
University of Melbourne Optometry student, University of Alberta graduate
Q. What is the difference between the University of Melbourne’s Bachelor of Optometry and Doctor of Optometry program?
A. This change is part of the Melbourne Model transformation occurring at the world-renowned university.

In past intakes, high school graduates could apply for the Bachelor of Optometry program, however, in 2011, the Doctor of Optometry was introduced and only those with an undergraduate degree are eligible to apply. The Doctor of Optometry will be four years in duration, as opposed to the Bachelor of Optometry’s five-year program. The new program will consist of a combination of on-campus teaching and clinical placements, with the clinical component commencing in year 1 and gradually increasing to full-time in the final year. Opportunities will exist for clinical related research to be conducted as a required component of the degree.

Q. When do applications open for the 2012 intake?
A. Applications are expected to open in May, 2011. As soon as OzTREKK is notified of the application process opening, we will contact our students immediately.

Q. In order to apply to the University of Melbourne’s Doctor of Optometry program for the 2012 intake, do I need to write the Optometry Admissions Test (OAT) or Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)?
A. Yes. The school requires that applicants complete the OAT. To learn more about the test and the available test dates in your area, please visit, www.ada.org/oat/index.html

Q. After completion of this program, will I be eligible to practise in Canada?
A. The Doctor of Optometry will allow graduates to be eligible to register to practise as a therapeutically endorsed optometrist in Australia, and to register to practise in several overseas countries. At this point, accreditation applications will be submitted to the relevant local and international boards in accordance with their guidelines. The University of Melbourne is planning to apply for accreditation in North America.
OzTREKK’s FAQs

Q. How many Canadian students study in Australia?
   A. Last year, more than 3,000 Canadians commenced a university program at an Australian university.

Q. When do the semesters start?
   A. Semester 1 begins February/early March, while Semester 2 commences in July. The exception to this semester system is Bond University, which offers a trimester system with intakes in January, May and September each year.

Q. When are applications due?
   A. Some programs do not have application deadlines and others have specific application deadlines (for example Physiotherapy, Speech Pathology). Please visit OzTREKK’s Program pages on the OzTREKK website for specific application deadlines or contact OzTREKK directly.

Q. Approximately how long does the application process take, and when will I find out about the status of my application?
   A. Study Abroad: 2 weeks
      Undergraduate programs: 3 weeks
      Postgraduate programs: 4 weeks
      Research programs: 5 – 6 weeks

Q. Am I eligible for a scholarship?
   A. All international students can apply for a scholarship if they intend to undertake a postgraduate research program. Postgraduate coursework and undergraduate. Don’t forget that if you apply through OzTREKK, you will automatically receive a $500 scholarship.

Q. What form of loans am I eligible for?
   A. Students are eligible to apply for government student loans as well as loans and lines of credit from private financial institutions.

Q. Are there any application fees?
   A. There are no fees for OzTREKK’s services. Some of OzTREKK’s universities charge a $100 or $110 AUD application fee. If you submit your application directly to OzTREKK, the university will waive your application fee.

Q. Is accommodation available for international students?
   A. Yes. All Australian universities have on-campus residential colleges available to international students. As well, all Australian universities provide off-campus apartments/motel-style accommodation to international students. Students who submit their applications via OzTREKK obtain access to OzTREKK’s Accommodation Reports for each of our Australian universities.

Q. When do I apply for an Australian student visa?
   A. Students can apply for an Australian student visa after having accepted an Australian university offer and received a Confirmation of Enrolment from OzTREKK.

Q. Can I work while I am studying in Australia?
   A. Yes. You can work up to 20 hours per week while the semester is in session, and you can work unlimited hours during official university holidays.

Other important questions to ask!
Q. How do I get a Student Visa?
Q. Can my partner live with me in Australia while I am studying at university?
Q. What is Overseas Student Health Cover?

Want to know the answers?
Submit your university application to OzTREKK.
STEP 1 — COMPLETE THE UNIVERSITY APPLICATION FORM
Please complete a University of Melbourne “Application for Admission International Postgraduate Student”
Online Application:
https://oztrekk.com/apps/MelbournePGonline.php

PDF Application:

STEP 2 — PREPARE SUPPLEMENTARY APPLICATION DOCUMENTS
Applicants need to submit a 500-word personal statement, outlining their interest in undertaking the University of Melbourne’s Doctor of Optometry program. Applicants also need to submit their OAT or MCAT results. Please note that for the 2012 intake, the OAT or MCAT must have been completed between January 2009 and May 2011.

STEP 3 — OBTAIN OFFICIAL ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPT
Your Canadian university can mail your transcript directly to OzTREKK, or you can mail your transcript directly to OzTREKK, as long as it remains in a sealed envelope. OzTREKK requires only one copy of your university transcript, even if you are applying to more than one Australian university.

STEP 4 — SUBMIT COMPLETE APPLICATION DIRECTLY TO OzTREKK
In order to receive OzTREKK’s free services, please submit your university application directly to OzTREKK:

OzTREKK mailing address:
OzTREKK educational services
102 Sumac Lane
Perth, Ontario K7H 3C7 Canada
Toll-free Fax: 1 866 698-7311
E-mail: info@oztrekk.com

STEP 5 — OzTREKK WILL CONFIRM RECEIPT OF YOUR APPLICATION
When OzTREKK receives your complete application, OzTREKK will:
» confirm that it has been submitted to your Australian university
» advise when an application outcome will be available
» provide you with exclusive login details to OzTREKK’s online Admissions and Pre-departure Centre, where you can check your application status 24/7 (www.oztrekk.com/extranet)

Please note:
Applications will open May, 2011.
HELPFUL HINTS!
To access OzTREKK’s free services and scholarships, applicants must submit their university applications directly to OzTREKK.
OzTREKK will match up your application documents as they arrive in our office. If your application is incomplete, we will advise you which documents are outstanding.

When your application is complete, OzTREKK will immediately submit it electronically to the University of Melbourne’s Office of Admissions.

OzTREKK will also notify you that your application has been submitted.

RECEIVE MORE TIPS ABOUT MELBOURNE’S APPLICATION PROCESS
Whether you’re applying for a program at an Australian university or about to board the plane, you’ll always have questions about your next step. That’s why OzTREKK is here for you. To gain access to unlimited helpful hints, apply through OzTREKK.

Before you apply, make sure you e-mail the Optometry School Admissions Officer, Christine Chu, at christine@oztrekk.com, to ask any questions, and she’ll be happy to help you through the application process to The University of Melbourne.