

CEO

Canadian Examiners in Optometry



ECO

Examineurs Canadiens en Optométrie

Notice to Future CACO Candidates

This notice is important for students in 4th year of an ACOE-accredited optometry degree program who will be graduating in spring 2015 and to students in optometry bridging programs at University of Waterloo and University of Montreal.

Canadian Examiners in Optometry - Examineurs Canadiens en Optométrie (CEO-ECO) announces a new clinical exam format beginning in 2015.

The new exam format will test candidates on communication skills in addition to their clinical skills. The new format is three 45-minute clinical skills stations using real patients PLUS three 10-minute communication stations using standardized patients (SPs).

The communication station scores will be combined with the clinical skills station scores resulting in three scores for the Skills exam. Candidates will need to pass all three components of the Skills exam.

The communication stations will test common optometry communication tasks, including verbal and non-verbal skills. Examples include:

- Interviewing and asking questions
- Demonstrating empathy and understanding
- Putting patients at ease
- Guiding the interaction
- Providing clear explanations in everyday language

Information about the structure of the CACO is available in the new CACO Guide. For a copy of the guide and for more information, please visit our website at www.ceo-eco.org.