



OPTOMETRY'S
MEETING®
PHOENIX, ARIZONA
JUNE 17-20, 2026



AOA+ 2026: WHERE FUTURE ODS BECOME LEADERS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

5:30–7 p.m. | AOA Experience: Opening Session

Kick off Optometry's Meeting in style at the AOA Experience! Join AOA and AOSA leaders as they ignite the week with energy, inspiration and a powerful celebration of the visionaries driving optometry forward.

Not required for AOA+ travel grant, but attendance is encouraged.

THURSDAY, JUNE 18

7–8 a.m. | Optometry's Meeting Education

Use this time to explore Optometry's Meeting and take in education courses of your choice.

Please note, 4 hours of education required to meet travel grant eligibility. (Courses do not have to be for CE to meet this requirement).

8–9 a.m. | Coffee Connections

General Session Foyer

Use this time to explore Optometry's Meeting and take in education courses of your choice.

Please note, 4 hours of education required to meet travel grant eligibility. (Courses do not have to be for CE to meet this requirement).

9 a.m.–12 p.m. | Leadership Lab: From Campus to Capitol

General Session Room

A dynamic, brunch-style general session with powerhouse panel discussions from doctors of optometry's and advocates. Topics include personal advocacy journeys, legislative success stories, ways for students to get involved today, and growing your personal and professional leadership skills. Additionally, a hype session for the AOAEyeQ Challenge. Breakfast will be provided during this session.

Student attendance required for AOA+ travel grant.

12 p.m.

Lunch on your own

2–5 p.m. | Optometry's Meeting Education

Use this time to explore Optometry's Meeting and take in education courses of your choice.

Please note, 4 hours of education required to meet travel grant eligibility. (Courses do not have to be for CE to meet this requirement).

6:30–9:30 p.m. | AOA EyeQ Championship

For decades, the Student Bowl has electrified Optometry's Meeting. Now, the excitement is rising to a whole new level. Beginning in 2026, the AOA-together with the AOSA-will usher this iconic event into its next chapter: the AOA EyeQ Championship, presented by AOAEExcel.

- 6:30–7:30 p.m. | AOA EyeQ Championship Kick-Off Reception
- 7:30–9 p.m. | AOA EyeQ Championship
- 9:00–9:30 p.m. | Post-Event Reception

FRIDAY, JUNE 19

7–9 a.m. | Optometry's Meeting Education

Use this time to explore Optometry's Meeting and take in education courses of your choice. Please note, 4 hours of education required to meet travel grant eligibility. (Courses do not have to be for CE to meet this requirement).

9 a.m.–12 p.m. | AOA+ Career Fair

Visit anytime between 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Connect with optometric practices, industry partners, and organizations from across the country during this interactive career fair. Designed for students exploring career paths in optometry, this session offers the opportunity to network, ask questions, learn about practice modalities and post-graduate opportunities, and make valuable connections that support your professional journey.

Please note, student attendance at the Career Fair, Residency Panel, Residency Forum, or Residency Summit required for AOA+ travel grant.

9 a.m.–12 p.m. | Residency Panel and Forum

- 9–10 a.m.: Residency Panel
- 10 a.m.–12 p.m.: Residency Forum

This session brings together doctors of optometry who have pursued residency training to share insights into their experiences across a variety of practice settings. Through a moderated panel discussion and open forum, attendees will learn about the value of residency training, career pathways, and lessons learned, while also having the opportunity to ask questions and engage in meaningful dialogue about post-graduate options in optometry.

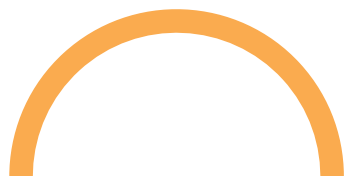
Please note, student attendance at the Career Fair, Residency Panel, Residency Forum, or Residency Summit required for AOA+ travel grant.

10:30 a.m.–12 p.m. | Residency Summit

Visit anytime between 10:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Meet face-to-face with residency directors from schools and colleges of optometry during this interactive summit designed to help you explore post-graduate training options. Students will have the opportunity to ask questions, learn about program structures, clinical focus areas, and application timelines, and gain firsthand insight to determine whether a residency is the right path for their career goals.

Please note, student attendance at the Career Fair, Residency Panel, Residency Forum, or Residency Summit required for AOA+ travel grant.



12:15–2 p.m. | Leadership Zone Luncheon and AOA+ Town Hall

Join in this engaging luncheon designed to foster meaningful connections with practicing doctors of optometry. Following the networking portion, participants will take part in the AOA+ Town Hall with the AOA Board of Trustees, offering a unique opportunity to ask questions, share perspectives, and engage directly with national leaders shaping the future of the profession.

Student attendance required for AOA+ travel grant.

2 p.m. | AOA+ Group Photo

Celebrate the future of optometry with a massive student group photo. Bring your smile and your energy!

2–7 p.m. | Optometry’s Meeting Education

Use this time to explore Optometry’s Meeting and take in education courses of your choice.

Please note, 4 hours of education required to meet travel grant eligibility. (Courses do not have to be for CE to meet this requirement).

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

7 a.m.–3 p.m. | Optometry’s Meeting Education

Use this time to explore Optometry’s Meeting and take in education courses of your choice.

Please note, 4 hours of education required to meet travel grant eligibility. (Courses do not have to be for CE to meet this requirement).

