

Thank you for your interest in the Boston Orthoptic Fellowship Program (BOFP). Our program is a two-year comprehensive, accredited program of academic and clinical instruction in orthoptics. Set in a clinical teaching environment at Boston Children's Hospital (BCH) and Tufts Medical Center (TMC), orthoptic education is taught through didactic instruction and clinical experience. We serve patients of all ages and abilities from children to adults with binocular vision disorders. We have an experienced staff of orthoptists and pediatric ophthalmologists dedicated to patient care, education, and clinical teaching of orthoptists, residents and fellows.

Career prospects for certified orthoptists are very positive. The demand for orthoptists increases every year, yet the number of newly certified orthoptists is not enough to fill openings.

The BOFP requires completion of an undergraduate degree prior to applying. Most students applying have a basic science background. The GRE is not required. We cannot accept applications from individuals who are not U.S. Citizens, unless the applicant has a Green Card. We strongly suggest that all applicants spend time observing an orthoptist prior to applying to our program.

The program is structured such that students are required to be in full time attendance Monday-Friday (approximately 40 hours/week). The workload is rewarding, but demanding. Students are required to complete a major research project and are encouraged to present their findings at a pre-approved regional or national orthoptic meeting. Tuition is \$5,000 per year (but subject to change, please confirm with program director as needed). The student is financially responsible for all living expenses, including health insurance during training. We accept a maximum of 2 students per year.

Students in orthoptic programs do not usually qualify for student loans; however, partial scholarships are available from the Joint Commission of Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO) and the Foundation for Orthoptic Research and Education in the Americas (FOREA).

An interview is required which may be virtual or in person. Complete application instructions can be found on the attached Application for Admission. Please submit this application along with supporting documents by mail or email.

Sincerely,

Sarah MacKinnon & Shelley Klein

Sarah MacKinnon, MSc, OC(C), CO, COMT & Shelley Klein, CO COMT
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Boston Children's Hospital & Tufts Medical Center