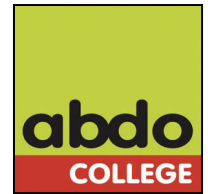


Application for Fellowship Dispensing Diploma Guidance Notes – SMC Technicians/ BSc Qualification



SMC (Tech)

If you hold the SMC (Tech) qualification and are interested in this further study, you may be exempt from some usual requirements.

If you can provide evidence of passing SMC (Tech) course within the last 10 years you may be exempt the first year. This is subject to you passing the preliminary theory dispensing examination before the second year intake deadline.

The first attempt at the preliminary theoretical examination will take place in June, with a second opportunity in September. For those of you who wish to be exempt the first year dispensing course studies you may apply for the preliminary theory examination in June/September if you complete an examination application form now (deadline for all applications is 30 March 2011). Please ensure that you have applied for and received both your ABDO membership number and your General Optical Council student registration number before submitting your application – exam applications will not be accepted if these two items of information are missing. Please contact ABDO Exams & Registrations on 01227 732921 for a form and details of the exams.

We would strongly recommend that students contact our offices and request a set of first year past papers. This will give you a clearer concept of what is expected of you during the examination and if you have enough knowledge and experience to pass the preliminary theoretical exam.

BSc Qualification

Students wishing to join our 3 year distance learning course who have an optics based BSc qualification should note the following.

Once evidence of the BSc has been provided you may be exempt the first year of study. You must however pass the preliminary qualifying examination (practical) in either the summer or winter sittings before attempting the final dispensing practical examination in the third year.

Prior to enrolling on the second year course, you must attend a preliminary examination practical revision course here at Godmersham. Please contact the courses team for details of dates and prices of these courses.

How to apply

If you wish to complete all three years of study and join the **first year** in September, please ensure that you complete a first year application form and send it into ABDO College together with a copy of your certificates. A holder of either certificate is exempt the standard entry requirements. You will need to apply for both ABDO membership and GOC registration at the same time.

For those students who wish to attempt the preliminary theory exams in June (resit September) you will need to complete an application form for the second year course. As the application deadline for the 2nd year is early August please complete the forms and return them asap. You will need to submit your course application before you hear if you were successful in the exam. Should you submit a second year form but fail the preliminary theory exam we will transfer your application to the first year course.