



Innovation is one of SUNY College of Optometry's core values. We work hard to foster an environment that encourages and supports innovative thinking.

The **Student Innovator Award** was initiated by Jobson's Rick Bay Foundation for Excellence in Eyecare Education to reward ingenuity, creativity, and innovation around ideas and concepts to improve eye care. Take your interest and design change in everything from clinical eye care, research concepts, and practice management to optometric education, health care policy, and technology – or any combination of these areas and more. Innovations are not limited in scope but should relate to eye care or vision.

The SUNY Student Innovator Award winner will receive a **\$5,000 prize** for scholarship during the spring. Participants can be individual students or teams up to three students (who then share the prize).

What You Need To Know:

- Open to all OD, MS and PhD students currently enrolled at the SUNY College of Optometry.
- Participants (student or team) submits intention to participate in competition by email with their name(s) to vcavallaro@sunyopt.edu by **November 3, 2023**
- The student (or team) should then submit an abstract of their idea to the award committee by **December 6, 2023**.
- All participants will be asked to confirm and verify that the ideas or concept presented are theirs.
- The submitted abstracts will be reviewed by the award committee with top submissions selected for presenting to the panel of judges; students will be notified on or about **January 8, 2024**.
- Selected students (or teams) will be asked to proceed with the development of their ideas.
- Selected students with their developed ideas will present to a panel of five (5) judges on **February, 2024** (at 5pm in Schwartz theater).

Ideas and submissions will be judged using the following criteria:

Originality – Is this a truly new idea or a new twist on an existing concept?

Viability – Does the idea or concept have a reasonable chance for development and implementation?

Impact – If successfully developed, what kind of impact would the idea have?

Feasibility – What additional steps or resources would be needed to realize the idea?



THE RICK BAY FOUNDATION
for Excellence in Eyecare Education®

Questions?

Vito Cavallaro

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212-938-5507 or vcavallaro@sunyopt.edu

Submit your innovation today to compete for the scholarship win (\$5,000).