



**STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY**  
 2450 DEL PASO ROAD, SUITE 105, SACRAMENTO, CA 95834  
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## FACT SHEET

### THERAPEUTIC PHARMACEUTICAL AGENT (TPA) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

An optometrist may become certified to use therapeutic pharmaceutical agents providing they meet the following requirements as defined by California Business & Professions Code §3041.3 and California Code of Regulations §1568 and submit a state application along with a \$25.00 application fee.

#### CATEGORY #1

If you are a licensed optometrist and you graduated from an accredited school of optometry prior to January 1, 1992, your TPA requirements according to CCR §1568(a)(1)-(5) are:

- Completion of an 80-hour TPA didactic course provided either by:
  - U.C. Berkeley School of Optometry
  - Southern California College School of Optometry
  - Western University of Health Sciences College of Optometry
  - Recognized residency review committee
  - Out of state school as provided in CCR §1570
- Pass the examination at the conclusion of the TPA course.
- Pass the TMOD component of the NBEO exam administered after January 1, 1992.
- Complete 20 hours of self directed study in the treatment and management of ocular, systemic disease.
- Complete a 65-hour preceptorship service as defined in CCR §1567(d).

#### CATEGORY #2

If you are a licensed optometrist and you graduated from an accredited school of optometry after January 1, 1992 but before January 1, 1996, your TPA requirements according to CCR §1568(b)(1)-(2) are:

- Complete 20 hours of self directed study in the treatment and management of ocular, systemic disease.
- Pass the TMOD component of the NBEO exam after July 1, 1992.
- Complete a 65-hour preceptorship service as defined in CCR section 1567(d).

#### CATEGORY #3

If you are an APPLICANT and you graduated from an accredited school of optometry after January 1, 1996, your TPA requirements according to CCR §1568(c)(1)-(3) are:

- Pass the TMOD component of the NBEO exam after July 1, 1992.
- Obtain a California optometrists license.
- Be certified by an accredited school of optometry that you are competent in the diagnosis, treatment, and management of ocular, systemic disease.
- Be certified by an accredited school of optometry that you have completed 10 hours of experience with an ophthalmologist.

#### CATEGORY #4:

If you are licensed outside of California and you graduated from an accredited school of optometry before January 1, 1992, your TPA requirements according to CCR §1568(d)(1)-(6) are:

- Obtain a California optometrist license.
- Completion of an 80-hour TPA didactic course provided either by:
  - U.C. Berkeley School of Optometry
  - Southern California College School of Optometry
  - Western University of Health Sciences College of Optometry
  - Recognized residency review committee
  - Out of state school as provided in CCR §1570
- Pass the examination at the conclusion of the TPA course.
- Pass the TMOD component of the NBEO exam after July 1, 1992.
- Complete 20 hours of self directed study in the treatment and management of ocular, systemic disease.

#### CATEGORY #5:

If you are licensed outside of California and you graduated from an accredited school of optometry after January 1, 1992 but prior to January 1, 1996, your TPA requirements according to CCR §1568(e)(1)-(3) are:

- Pass the TMOD component of the NBEO exam after July 1, 1992.
- Obtain a California optometrist license.
- Complete 20 hours of self directed study in the treatment and management of ocular, systemic disease.

#### CATEGORY #6:

If you are licensed in a state outside of California and you graduated from an accredited school of optometry prior to January 1, 1992 and have practiced in that state or on a reservation or a facility supported and maintained by the United States Government with a TPA license, your TPA requirements according to CCR §1568(f)(1)-(3) are:

- Obtain a California optometrist license.
- Pass the TMOD component of the NBEO administered after July 1, 1992.

#### CATEGORY #7:

If you are licensed in a state outside of California, and you graduated from an accredited school of optometry after January 1, 1992 but before January 1, 1996 and have practiced in that state or on a reservation or a facility supported and maintained by the United States Government with a TPA license, your TPA requirements according to CCR §1568(g)(1)-(2) are:

- Pass the TMOD component of the NBEO administered after July 1, 1992.
- Obtain a California optometrist license.
- Complete 20 hours of self directed study in the treatment and management of ocular, systemic disease.
- Complete a 65-hour preceptorship service as defined in CCR section 1567(d).

You may call and request a form at (916) 575-7170) or go to the Board's web site at [www.optometry.ca.gov](http://www.optometry.ca.gov), click on [Forms/Publications](#), then click on [Application for Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agents Certification](#).