

Board Encourages Optometrists to Take Continuing Education Courses on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

The Board is committed to DEIB and embedded its commitment into its values within the amended Strategic Plan, adopted on February 16, 2024. One of the Board’s Outreach goals contained in the Strategic Plan is found at Goal 5.7: “Evaluate and create better consumer outcomes such as access to care and addressing patient needs for marginalized populations by implementation of a multi-step action plan educating licensees about concepts of diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging.” Today, the Board takes yet another step toward fulfilling that goal by releasing a Board/staff researched list of continuing education courses in DEIB. Our previous efforts to educate licensees about concepts of DEIB have included:

- August 26, 2022—A presentation on DEIB by Dr. Ruth Shoge, O.D. (director of DEIB and associate clinical professor, Herbert Wertheim School of Optometry and Vision Science at the University of California, Berkeley).
- August 25, 2023—Board action to seek a legislative proposal to encourage optometrist licensees to take CE courses in DEIB.
- December 8, 2023—Strategic planning session embedding DEIB into our 2021–2025 Strategic Plan.

Please note that this is a non-exhaustive list based on Board/staff research. The Board is not responsible for the courses and does not endorse any course beyond indicating whether it qualifies for CE requirements or not. All these courses meet current Board CE requirements by virtue of being COPE (Council on Optometric Practitioner Education) approved or approved by another CE provider authorized by Board laws. Questions regarding any of the courses below should be directed to the course provider. Visit the link under COPE ID to access course information. [Click here to learn more about the CE requirements.](#)

COPE ID	Course Title	Total Hours	Instructor	Category	Format	Expires
84630-GO	Saving Sight: Eyes on Equity in Black & Hispanic Communities	1	Paula Newsome	General Optometry	Synchronous In-Person	5/18/2024
84688-EJ	Implicit Bias & Your Practice	2	Matthew Roberts	Ethics/ Jurisprudence	Synchronous Virtual	5/18/2024
85051-PB	Implicit Bias and Health Equity	1	Tahira Bedgood	Public Health	Synchronous In-Person	6/9/2024
85258-GO	Cultural Competency in Optometry	1	Nitya Murthy	General Optometry	Synchronous In-Person	6/26/2024
86056-PB	Is Cultural Competency a Necessary Optometric Skill	1	Matthew Pearce	Public Health	Synchronous In-Person	8/8/2024
86697-PB	AP-DEI Building Blocks: Foundational Concepts for Understanding Diversity Equity and Inclusion in Optometry	1	Janette Pepper	Public Health	Synchronous In-Person	8/29/2024
86695-PB	AP-ACE: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Fundamentals in Action	1	Janette Pepper	Public Health	Synchronous In-Person	8/29/2024
86691-PB	AP-AI-enabled Ophthalmic Biomedicine: Advancing Health Equity	1	Jessica Steen	Public Health	Synchronous In-Person	8/29/2024
87154-PB	AP Social Determinants of Health and Access to Eye Care	2	Lucy Kehinde	Public Health	Synchronous In-Person	9/14/2024
87134-PB	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Eye Care	1	Janette Pepper	Public Health	Synchronous In-Person	9/20/2024

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74953-PB	Advancing Health Equity	3.5	Adam Aponte	Public Health	Online Enduring	10/6/2024
88636-PB	Inclusion Matters: Creating an LGBTQ-Affirming Optometry Practice	1	Shane Foster	Public Health	Synchronous In-Person	11/29/2024
78946-PB	Implementing Cultural Competency into Clinical Practice	1	Mari Fujimoto	Public Health	Online Enduring	6/9/2025
81145-PB	JA Health Equity Foundations	1	Abiola Abu-Bakr	Public Health	Online Enduring	10/10/2025
82376-PM	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Eye Care	1	Janette Pepper	Practice Management	Online Enduring	1/6/2026
83201-PB	JA Implicit Bias Training for Healthcare	2	Megan Arbour	Public Health	Asynchronous	2/13/2026
83885-PB	JA Aiming for Equity: Best Practices in Managing Diabetic Eye Disease in Hispanic and Latino Patients	0.5	Jorge Fortun	Public Health	Asynchronous	3/21/2026
83886-TD	JA Aiming for Equity: Best Practices in Managing AMD in Women	0.5	Adrienne Scott	Trt/Mngmnt Ocular Disease	Asynchronous	3/21/2026
83917-PB	JA Implicit Bias: Weight Stigma in Health Care	1	Anne Cockerham	Public Health	Asynchronous	3/23/2026
84016-PB	JA S04: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Pediatric Medicine: An Ethical Discussion	1.5	Gabrina Dixon	Public Health	Asynchronous	3/30/2026
84306-PB	Becoming Culturally Competent and Practicing Cultural Humility to Effectively Identify and Address Implicit Bias and Microaggressions in Health Care	2	Rita Walters	Public Health	Asynchronous	4/20/2026
85028-PB	JA Saving Sight: Eyes on Equity in Black & Hispanic Communities	1	Paula Newsome	Public Health	Asynchronous	6/8/2026
85045-PB	JA Implicit Bias	3	Joanna Nolte	Public Health	Asynchronous	6/9/2026
85346-PB	JA Implicit Bias	2	Joanna Nolte	Public Health	Asynchronous	6/30/2026
87133-PB	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Eye Care	1	Janette Pepper	Public Health	Asynchronous	9/20/2026
89032-PB	JA Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for the Health Care Employee	1.5	Juan Armando Rojas Joo	Public Health	Asynchronous	12/22/2026
89035-PB	JA Implicit Bias for the Health Care Professional	1	Juan Armando Rojas Joo	Public Health	Asynchronous	12/22/2026