



ISSUE MEMORANDUM

DATE	May 5, 2023
TO	Board Members, California State Board of Optometry (CSBO)
FROM	Randy Love, Administration & Licensing Manager
SUBJECT	Agenda Item 6C: Executive Officer’s Report – Examination and Licensing Programs

1. BreEZe Updates

Board staff work continually with staff from the Department of Consumer Affairs to improve the functionality of BreEZe and make the updates required by changes to the law. Updates to BreEZe are put into production once a month, and each BreEZe update can only include a limited number of changes.

The update for May 2023 includes:

- Update to the Glaucoma certification application
- More “mailing address” functionality, including the Optometrist pocket license
- Updates to some application and renewal questions to decrease confusion and errors
- Bypass the Continuing Education (CE) question if an Optometrist is renewing as INACTIVE
- Amend the question about practice ownership on the Statement of Licensure application to ask about how many locations the applicant has an ownership interest in, instead of asking about ownership percentage.

The update for June 2023 will include:

- Corrections to issues with fee waivers for Military and Military Spouse application fees
- Removing outdated contact information from BreEZe-generated correspondence
- Updated application for Fictitious Name Permit – required documents

Future updates will include:

- The “Nonresident Contact Lens Seller” registration will change to the “Nonresident Ophthalmic Lens Dispensers” registration, as directed by AB 1534
- The ability to order a Letter of Verification from your BreEZe dashboard
- The application for an Immunization Certificate
- The application for a Temporary Optometrist License ([SB 509](#))

- The application to register as a “Supervising Optometrist” (SB 509)
- More mailing address functionality
- Mobile Optometric Office (MOO) permit applications and renewals
- The applications for Retired Optometrist and Retired Volunteer status

2. Outreach

In preparation for the upcoming Optometrist graduation season, Executive Officer Gregory Pruden met with Optometry students at the University of California, Berkeley to provide information and outreach about the Board, the application process, and California Optometry licensure.

3. Statistical Review, Quarter 3, Fiscal Year 2022-2023

A statistical review of Quarter 3 of the current fiscal year (2022-2023) is provided as Attachment 6Ci.

Page 1 shows the total number of licenses by license type and by license status. This data is as of March 31, 2023.

Page 2 shows the number of applications received and approved by type. Also included are the totals for the prior fiscal year (2021-2022). Of note, the number of applications to take the California Laws and Regulations Examination (CLRE) was almost three times more in quarter three than in quarter one or two – a sure sign that another class of Optometrists is getting ready to apply for licensure and begin treating California patients.

Pages 3-6 contain graphs that illustrate the number of applications processed each month along with the average processing time.