California State Board of Optometry
BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY • GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS • CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
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ISSUE MEMORANDUM

DATE	February 21, 2025
TO	Members, California State Board of Optometry (CSBO)
FROM	Gregory Pruden – Executive Officer
SUBJECT	Agenda Item #6 – Discussion, Review, and Possible Action on the Board's Newsletter – The Spectacle

Background:

The Board publishes a periodic newsletter titled 'The Spectacle', typically publishing in Winter, Spring and Summer. The Board is not mandated by law to produce or publish a newsletter.

The Board distributes the newsletter in the following ways: website, social media, and email ListServ.

Several of the Board's goals related to outreach involve the newsletter, including:

- 5.1 Identify opportunities to expand outreach to diverse communities.
- 5.3 Collaborate with continuing education providers and associations to disseminate updates to legislation and regulations regarding the current state of practice (i.e., training modules specific to Law/Regs, Board quarterly updates to precede trainings).
- 5.4 Create and enact an outreach plan with opticianry programs regarding California registration requirements for the use of the title "optician" to enhance compliance with California law and encourage registration.
- 5.5 Publish and disseminate enforcement actions to illustrate the consequences of infractions (DUI, malpractice, and unlicensed activity).
- 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.

The Board utilizes the newsletter to conduct outreach to diverse communities, collaborate with stakeholders and associations to disseminate information, developed, and published, an opticianry outreach brochure, publishes and disseminates enforcement actions, and creates and publishes information, including continuing education courses, for licensees regarding diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging.

Here are recent examples from the Board's newsletter in each of the outreach goal areas:

- Winter 2025 Newsletter: published information on the InfantSEE program and

requirements that all health plans cover vision benefits for children.

- Summer 2024 Newsletter: Guest article regarding Latinos en Optometry and culturally competent care.

- Spring 2024 Newsletter: published information on Optician training programs in California, released a list of continuing education courses in diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging, and published information regarding eyeglass donation programs.

Discussion Topics:

- How can The Spectacle be used more effectively?

- What content could we use for increased engagement?

- Can we solicit and feature guest content?

Attachment 1: Winter 2025 Newsletter

Attachment 2: Summer 2024 Newsletter

Attachment 3: Spring 2024 Newsletter

THE CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY'S WINTER NEWS EDITION
CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY



THE SPECTACLE

The California State Board of Optometry protects the health and safety of California consumers through licensing and regulation of the practices of optometry and opticianry.

WINTERTIME!

Welcome to the winter 2025 edition of The Spectacle! In this issue, you will find the following updates:

- Winter Eye Health Tips
- Did You Know? All Health Plans Have Vision Care Benefits for Children
- New Federal Eyeglass Rule in Effect
- Continuing Education Reminders
- Updated Law and Regulations Book
- FNP Renewals—Renew by January 31st
- Mobile Optometric Office and Home Residence Permit Regulations Implemented
- Scam Alert!
- Recent Disciplinary Actions

Keep reading to get the latest news and updates from the Board!



Protect Your Vision This Winter

In winter, it's crucial to pay special attention to your eye health. Winter weather can pose unique challenges to our vision, from dry eyes to increased screen time. By understanding these risks and implementing simple preventative measures, you can help protect your eye health throughout the winter season.

Dry Eyes: A Common Winter Complaint

One of the most significant threats to eye health during winter is dry eyes. Cold temperatures and low humidity can strip your eyes of their natural protective layers of tears, leading to irritation, redness, and blurred vision. Central heating systems can further dry out the air, exacerbating existing dry eye conditions.

To combat dry eyes, consider the following tips:

1. Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water throughout the day.
2. Use artificial tear drops or ointments as recommended by your optometrist.
3. Position yourself closer to a window when working indoors to benefit from natural light.
4. Use a humidifier in your home to add moisture to the air.

Protecting Against UV Rays

Sunglasses aren't just for summer. Snow and ice are reflective, so the sun's rays can reach your eyes from below as well as above. The low sun in winter can be dazzling, so wear sunglasses on sunny winter days, particularly when driving or doing outdoor activities. UV exposure is cumulative, so although you may not feel any immediate effects, you could be putting yourself at risk of long-term damage if you don't wear good quality sunglasses or goggles.

Managing Digital Eye Strain

In the winter, increased screen time caused by being indoors more often can lead to digital eye strain. This can cause fatigue, headaches, and blurred vision. To manage digital eye strain, consider these tips:

1. Try to read physical media instead of digital media when you can.
2. Adjust monitor settings for optimal comfort and distance.
3. Ensure proper lighting in your work or living space and try to use natural light when possible.

Prioritize Overall Eye Health

A comprehensive approach to winter eye health involves more than just short-term fixes. Here are some long-term strategies:

1. Visit your optometrist for a comprehensive exam on an annual basis.
2. Incorporate healthy foods in your diet, drink plenty of water, and get sufficient sleep.
3. Practice good hygiene by washing your hands frequently, especially before touching your face.

Did You Know? All Health Plans Have Vision Care Benefits for Children

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, all health insurance plans for children include a vision care benefit. The Board reminds consumers that you can take advantage of this benefit by making an appointment for your child today with an optometrist or ophthalmologist. It is important to know that vision problems among children can be missed by ordinary vision screenings and may be easily overlooked by parents and teachers. Vision screenings at the pediatrician's office, Head Start program, or school site are helpful, but do not replace a comprehensive eye exam with an optometrist or ophthalmologist.

The American Optometric Association and the Board recommend that all children have an eye exam with an optometrist or ophthalmologist at ages six (6) months, three (3) years, and before starting first grade.

The National Center for Children's Vision and Eye Health recommends that all children with developmental disorders such as Autism Spectrum Disorder, Down Syndrome, and Cerebral Palsy have a comprehensive eye exam with an optometrist or ophthalmologist regardless of vision screening results.

Eye and vision problems in young children may cause lifelong vision impairment if not diagnosed and treated at an early age.

If your child is age 6 12 months, a comprehensive eye exam with an eye doctor is particularly easy thanks to a program called **InfantSEE®**. Children of any age can complete a comprehensive eye exam even if they do not know the alphabet. Under this program, your baby can have an eye exam at no cost to you. No deductible, no co pay, nothing! **https://infantsee.org/**

If your child is of school age and struggling, an eye exam with an optometrist or ophthalmologist is important. Children can pass a vision screening with normal eyesight ("20/20") but may have a deeper visual problem that impacts learning and development.

Visit **DCA Search** to locate a licensed optometrist in good standing and make an appointment today!

Board Releases Guidance on Revised Federal Eyeglass Rule Now in Effect



BOARD OF OPTOMETRY INFORMS LICENSEES NEW FEDERAL EYEGLASS RULE IN EFFECT

The California State Board of Optometry (Board) reminds optometrists that they are required by state and federal law to abide by the rules pertaining to prescriptions and eye examinations adopted by the Federal Trade Commission.

Effective, September 26, 2024, the **new federal Eyeglass Rule of 2024** requires optometrists to obtain confirmation from a patient that the prescription was provided to the patient. In cases where the prescription is provided electronically, optometrists need to obtain affirmative consent from the patient to send the prescription electronically and must retain that consent for three years. According to the rule, patients must be given their prescription prior to the promotion of in-office eyeglass and contact lens product sales.

According to the federal regulations, to obtain affirmative consent to provide a prescription in a digital format, an optometrist must:

- Identify to the patient the specific method of electronic delivery that will be used, such as text message, e-mail, or an online patient portal.
- Obtain, on paper or in a digital format, the patient's verifiable affirmative consent to receive a digital copy of the prescription through the identified method.
- Maintain records or evidence of the patient's affirmative consent for a period of at least 3 years.

The revised eyeglass rule also requires the prescription to be provided to the patient before offering to sell any ophthalmic goods. Optometrists must also confirm the prescription was released to the patient. If the prescription was provided in a paper format, the optometrist must request the patient acknowledge receipt of the prescription by signing a separate statement on paper or in a digital format. If a digital copy of the prescription was provided to the patient, then the optometrist must retain evidence that it was sent, received, or made accessible, downloadable, and printable.

In some cases, an optometrist is not required to obtain confirmation that the patient received the prescription nor are they required to maintain records or evidence for three years of having obtained that confirmation. The optometrist is not required to obtain confirmation or maintain these records if they do not have a direct or indirect financial interest in the sale of eye wear, including through an association, affiliation, or co-location with an optical dispenser.

If you have additional questions, please contact the Board at **optometry@dca.ca.gov** or reach out to your state or national association.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

optometry.ca.gov

PDE_24-346

Board Reminds Licensees of CE Requirements and Extension Form Request

Did you know new continuing education (CE) laws for licensed optometrists went into effect in August 2023?

You are now able to take up to 25 total hours of self-study or asynchronous coursework for CE credit for each two-year renewal cycle. The most common type of self-study or asynchronous coursework is taken through books or home study programs, audio or video pre- recorded teleconferences, webinars, seminars, or lectures via the internet. However, there are many other ways to obtain self-study CE credits. But no matter how you take your CE coursework, please ensure you keep the completion certificates in a safe place as you are required to keep them for a period of 4 years. The Board invites you to visit the California Code of Regulations section **1536** to familiarize yourself with the CE laws.

Are you challenged with keeping your CE records organized?

Did you know that you can capture your CE attendance all in one place? Every optometrist who took the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) licensing examination in the U.S. has an OE TRACKER number that was assigned when they registered for the NBEO exams. CE providers will often ask for your OE TRACKER number to capture your attendance of their course. If you don't know your OE TRACKER number, you can **look it up** on Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) **website** or NBEO's **website**.

Did you know you can review your CE data all in one place?

Attendance data is often provided to ARBO by CE providers. To view your CE credits, **login to OE TRACKER**. If you notice any CE hours missing and have paid your OE TRACKER subscription fee, you can upload your certificates by going to "Submit Credits into OE TRACKER from CE Certificates" on your OE TRACKER homepage or by using the OE TRACKER mobile app. The ARBO committee known as COPE (Council on Optometric Practitioner Education) will verify the information and add the credits to your account.

Please visit these links to review the continuing education Laws and Regulations:

Business and Professions Code section 3059

California Code of Regulations section 1536

Are you challenged in completing your CE requirement because of a medical or personal reason?

Did you know that the Board may grant CE extension or exemptions due to illness, or other good cause such as incapacity or other unavoidable circumstances? Requests must be submitted at least 30 days prior to your license expiration date. The Board may deny a request for exemption but, at its discretion, may grant the licensee an extension of up to one year to obtain the required CE. The CE Exemption/Extension Form can be accessed **here**.

Scam Alert!

The Board has learned of an attempted fraud scheme aimed at licensees of the Board. In the scheme, which is communicated by phone, letter, or fax, individuals who identify themselves as Board employees or investigators notify the licensee that they are under investigation, their license may be suspended, or an arrest warrant has been issued in their name, and then demand money. In some instances, the individuals identify themselves as Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) or other law enforcement agencies. The callers may be "spoofing" Board telephone numbers to make the calls appear legitimate.



How to protect yourself:

- If you have any doubts or questions about someone claiming to represent the Board, hang up, then call the Board directly at (916) 575 7170 or email optometry@dca.ca.gov, even if this looks like the same number you are being called from.
- Refuse payment. Never provide banking or credit card numbers, or personal information, without first taking steps to verify that the person requesting the information has a legitimate need for it. The Board will never ask for credit/debit information via a letter or over the phone.
- You can also consider simply taking down the caller's information (including name, title, phone number, and email address), let them know you will follow up directly with the Board, and end the call.
- You may also consider ending the call without explanation if it appears suspicious or to be a scam.

Western University of Health Sciences, College of Optometry, Enrolls Record Number of Latino Students

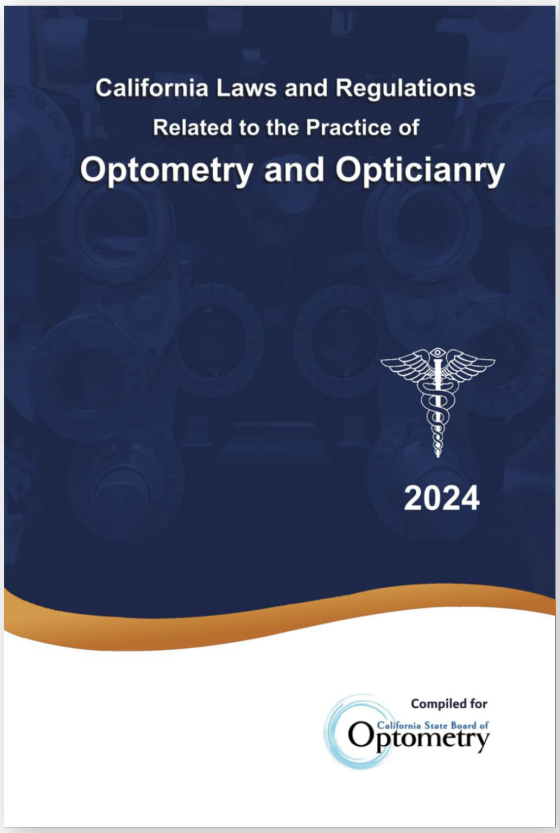
Data released from the **Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry** on the profile of matriculating students who enrolled in optometry programs in the fall of 2024 show that Western University of Health Sciences, College of Optometry, enrolled the greatest percentage of students of Hispanic or Latino heritage, second only to the Inter American University of Puerto Rico School of Optometry. Twenty-four institutions reported data as seen below:

School	Class size	Number Hispanic or Latino	Percentage
Inter American University	60	43	72%
Western University School of Health Sciences, College of Optometry	69	20	29%
Nova Southeastern University	107	29	27%
University of Houston	99	13	13%
State University of New York	97	9	9%
New England College of Optometry	128	10	8%
Pacific University College of Optometry	89	6	7%
University of California Berkeley	62	4	6%
Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions, College of Optometry	64	4	6%
University of the Incarnate Word	68	4	6%
Indiana University	80	4	5%
Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum	106	5	5%

School	Class size	Number Hispanic or Latino	Percentage
University of Pikeville, Kentucky	59	2	3%
The Ohio State University	68	2	3%
Illinois College of Optometry	124	3	2%
Pennsylvania College of Optometry	136	3	2%
Chicago College of Optometry	62	1	2%
Southern College of Optometry	136	1	1%
Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris State University	37	0	0%
University of Alabama at Birmingham	58	0	0%
Arizona College of Optometry, Midwestern University	70	0	0%
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, School of Optometry	65	0	0%
University of Missouri at St. Louis College of Optometry	50	0	0%
Northeastern State University, Oklahoma College of Optometry	28	0	0%

Board Releases 2024 Laws and Regulations Book

To assist applicants, licensees, and consumers in understanding the laws and regulations that govern the practice of optometry and opticianry in California, the Board is pleased to announce the release of the 2024 Laws and Regulations Book. This edition replaces the prior edition, published in 2020, and can be found at the Board's website here. It may also be purchased **here**.



Board Implements Access to Care Regulations



The Mobile Optometric Office and Home Residence Permit regulations are effective in law as of October 9 and October 21, 2024. The Mobile Optometric Office regulations permit a non-profit corporation or charitable organization to own and operate 12 mobile optometric offices during the first two-year licensure period. The Home Residence permit regulations authorize a licensed optometrist to provide optometric services to the homebound. The applications for the Mobile Optometric Office and Home Residence Permit program are expected to be released in the first quarter of 2025. Please visit **www.optometry.ca.gov** or email **optometry@dca.ca.gov** for more information.

Find Us on Social Media

The Board regularly posts on all its social media platforms **Facebook**, **Instagram**, **LinkedIn**, and **X**.

Did you know that the Board also has an email list? If social media is not your thing, but you still want to stay up to date with the Board updates and happenings such as Optometry/Optician Regulations and Legislation, Public Board Meeting Announcements/Agendas, The Spectacle newsletter, Subject Matter Expert Workshops, and all other Board related updates subscribe **here**.



Time To Renew Fictitious Name Permits (FNPs)

Attention Fictitious Name Permit holders! It is time to renew your permits, as they always expire on January 31 of each year. Log in to your **BreEZe** account and submit your renewal today. The renewal fee is $50, and you will be charged a $25 delinquent fee for renewing late. For changes or cancellations, please contact **optometrylicensing@dca.ca.gov**.



We Need You! Subject Matter Expert/Expert Witness Recruitment

Would you like to earn up to **12 CE hours per renewal period**, get paid up to $200 per day, and give back to your profession? Become a Board Subject Matter Expert (SME)! The California Laws and Regulations Examination (CLRE) taken by new Optometrist applicants is developed by SMEs. Join us to help ensure that the CLRE accurately reflects the tasks and knowledge required to practice in California. All travel, hotel, and meal expenses are reimbursed at the state rate!

Exam development not your thing? The Board also needs Expert Witnesses to assist the enforcement program in protecting consumers of optometric services. An Expert Witness is any licensee possessing technical or professional knowledge gained from advanced education and/or extensive work experience that enables the individual to form a definite opinion in an area of expertise in the standard of care for the profession. Expert Witnesses are asked to review confidential case material, prepare written reports and, possibly, testify at administrative hearings. Their reports and/or findings may result in a disciplinary action against an optometrist. The Board pays experts at the rate of:

- $100 an hour for record review and preparation of a written report.
- $150 an hour for testimony at a hearing.

To participate, all licensees must:

- Hold a current active license with a glaucoma certification and be practicing in California.
- Be in good standing with the Board.
- For Exam Development SMEs: Newly licensed optometrists within five years of graduation are highly encouraged to apply!
- For Expert Witness SMEs: Licensed optometrists with technical and professional expertise demonstrating ability to form expert opinions about the standard of care in optometry.

To register as an Exam Development SME, please reach out to **dcaopessme@dca.ca.gov**.

To apply to be an Expert Witness for the Board, visit **Expert Witness Recruitment**.



Recent Disciplinary Actions Taken by the Board

For the most current list of citations issued and disciplinary actions, please visit **www.optometry.ca.gov/consumers/disciplinary.shtml**.

The Board provides information regarding administrative disciplinary actions for immediate access and convenience of interested persons. You can also access the "**DCA Search**" to verify if a licensed optometrist or optician has had any disciplinary action taken against their license or registration or to verify the status of a license.

While the Board believes the information to be reliable, human or technical error remains a possibility, as does a possible delay in posting or updating information.

CITATIONS AND FINES

Burris, Stephanie A. (OPT 10928)—Santa Barbara
On October 17, 2024, a $2,500 citation was issued to Stephanie A. Burris (OPT 10928) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle and certifying on her license renewal the requirements were met. (BPC §§ 3110(a) & (j), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Chen, Julie Edith (OPT 11113)—Irvine
On August 20, 2024, a $900 citation was issued to Julie Edith Chen (OPT 11113) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle. (BPC §§ 3110(a), 3110(j), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Diego Zegarra Optical (RDO 70669)—North Hollywood
On September 3, 2024, a $2,500 citation was issued to Diego Zegarra Optical for the unlicensed fitting and adjusting of spectacle lenses (BPC §§ 2555.5(a),(p),(q), and 2559.1(a)(1)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the registrants license profile.**

Ghatta, Marianne Rydberg (OPT 10916)—Fremont
On October 17, 2024, a $650 citation was issued to Marianne Rydberg Ghatta (OPT 10916) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle. (BPC§§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b) & (l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Hossini, Paymon (OPT 33374)—Chula Vista
On November 26, 2024, a $2,500 citation was issued to Paymon Hossini (OPT 33374) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021-2023 renewal cycle and certifying his license renewal the requirements were met. (BPC§§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR §§ 1536(b) and (l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Hsu, Sophie Yiyiing (OPT 14005)—Chino Hills
On August 6, 2024, a $1,050 citation was issued to Sophie Yiyiing Hsu (OPT 14005) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle. (BPC§§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

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Kim, Sung Soo (OPT 10853)—Fullerton
On August 6, 2024, a $1,050 citation was issued to Sung Soo Kim (OPT 10853) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle. (BPC§§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Lee, Patrick Shuenchung (OPT 13528)—Fountain Valley
On August 6, 2024, a $1,300 citation was issued to Patrick Shuenchung Lee (OPT 13528) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle and certifying on his license renewal the requirements were met. (BPC§§ 3110(a) & (j), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Lin, Dennis Joshua (OPT 12326)—Monterey Park
On December 5, 2024, a $650 citation was issued to Dennis Joshua Lin (OPT 12326) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021-2023 renewal cycle. (BPC BPC §§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR BPC §§ 1536(l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Mennucci, Jonathan Eric (OPT 33519)—Chico
On November 26, 2024, a $2,100 citation was issued to Jonathan E. Mennucci (OPT 33519) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021-2023 renewal cycle and certifying his license renewal the requirements were met . (BPC §§ 3110(a) & (j), 3059(e), and CCR §§ 1536(b) and (l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Mione, Robert Douglas (unregistered)—Los Angeles
On January 7, 2025, a $1,000 modified citation was issued to Robert Douglas Mione (unlicensed) for the unregistered practice of fitting and dispensing spectacle lenses to a customer and misrepresenting himself as being able to do so as a registered dispensing optician by his actions and his business card. (BPC §§ 2556.5, 2559.1(a)(1), 2564.90, 2543(a). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action.**

Murphy, John Halloren (OPT 5576)—Riverside
On October 17, 2024, a $900 citation was issued to John Halloren Murphy (OPT 5576) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle and certifying on his license renewal the requirements were met. (BPC §§ 3110(a)(j), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Nguyen, Tracy Thanh Truc (OPT 10859)—Chula Vista
On November 26, 2024, a $2,500 citation was issued to Tracy T.T. Nguyen (OPT 10859) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021-2023 renewal cycle and certifying her license renewal the requirements were met. (BPC§§ 3110(a) & (j), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Phan, Tri Duc (OPT 11733)—San Diego
On August 27, 2024, a $2,500 citation was issued to Tri Duc Phan (OPT 11733) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle. (BPC §§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Rosen, Daniel M. (OPT 10860)—Los Angeles
On October 17, 2024, a $650 citation was issued to Daniel M. Rosen (OPT 10860) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle. (BPC §§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Tung, Jacqueline (OPT 12743)—Newark
On August 20, 2024, a $1,700 citation was issued to Jacqueline Tung (OPT 12743) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle. (BPC §§ 3110(a), and (j), 3059(e), and CCR §§ 1536(b) and (l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

PC 23 ORDER

Zoeckler, Brandon Thomas (OPT 14486)—Temecula
Effective September 9, 2024, the license of Brandon Thomas Zoeckler (OPT 14486), is subject to practice restrictions. He must have an adult present who is aware of the pending criminal charges against him when practicing around a minor, and a parent or guardian must accompany any minor when he is treating a patient. **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or view the doctor's profile**

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PENDING ACCUSATIONS

Di Libero, Juliette Ann (OPT 10829)—El Cajon
On October 10, 2024, an Accusation was filed against the license of Juliette Ann Di Libero (OPT 10829), for a criminal conviction of Driving Under the Influence and Dangerous Use of Alcohol (BPC §§490, 3110(k), and (l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or view the doctor's profile.**

Frazier, Jake (SLD 42183)—Carmichael
On December 4, 2024, an Accusation was filed against the registration of Jake Frazier (SLD 42183), for a Criminal Conviction and Dangerous Use of Alcohol (BPC §§490, 2555.5(k), and (l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or view the registrant's profile.**

Hsu, Jean W. (OPT 12142)—Santa Clara
On May 3, 2024, an Accusation was filed against the license of Jean W. Hsu (OPT 12142), for Unprofessional Conduct (BPC §§ 3110(b), (c), (d), (q), and (y)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or view the doctor's profile.**

Stewart, James Albert (OPT 7582)—Fresno
On April 25, 2024, an Accusation was filed against the license of James Albert Stewart (OPT 7582) for being Unsafe to Practice, Unprofessional Conduct, and Repeated Negligent Acts. (BPC §§822, 3110, and 3110(c)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or view the doctor's profile.**

PROBATION

Burkart, Kieth Jerome (OPT 5639)—Lake Arrowhead
Effective November 7, 2024, the license of Kieth Jerome Burkart (OPT 5639), was revoked, the revocation stayed, and his license placed on probation for three years (BPC § 3110, 3110(b), and (y)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action and view the doctor's profile.**

EyeNoon Optical (RDO 71134)
Wooyeon Lee (SLD 42244 and CLD 8888)—Los Angeles
Effective June 13, 2024, the registrations of EyeNoon Optical (RDO 71134) and Wooyeon Lee (SLD 4224 and CLD 8888), were revoked, the revocations stayed, and the registrations placed on probation for three years for Unprofessional Conduct and vetting and facilitating the employment of an unlicensed individual to perform optometry services. **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or view the registrant's RDO profile, SLD profile, and CLD profile.**

Yen, Lucy (OPT 12476)—San Jose
Effective November 7, 2024, the license of Lucy Yen (OPT 12476) was revoked, the revocation was stayed, and her license placed on probation for five years for Conviction of a Substantially Related Crime, Fraud/Misrepresentation/Deceit/Corruption, and Unprofessional Conduct (BPC §§ 3110(a), (e), and (k)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action and view the doctor's profile.**

Zegarra, Adrianna Guisella (SLD 43591)—Panorama City
Effective November 7, 2024, the Registered Spectacle Lens Dispenser application for Adrianna Guisella Zegarra (SLD 43591), was approved, the registration was issued and immediately revoked, the revocation was stayed, and her registration placed on probation for one year for a Criminal Conviction, and an Act Warranting Denial of Licensure (BPC §§ 2559.2(b), 480(a)(1), and 475(a)(2)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action and to view the registrant's profile.**

REVOKED

Smith, Lesha (SLD 42013)—Sacramento
Effective March 7, 2024, the registration of Lesha Smith (SLD 42013), was revoked for a Criminal Conviction and Dangerous Use of Alcohol (BPC §§490(a), (b), (c), 2555.5(a), (k), and (l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the registrant's license profile.**

STATEMENT OF ISSUES

Chavez, David Alexander (SLD Applicant)
On December 20, 2024, a Statement of Issues was filed against David Alexander Chavez following the denial of his application for registration as a Spectacle Lens Dispenser. The basis for the denial was a Conviction of a Substantially Related Crime and Dangerous Use of Alcohol (BPC §§480(a)(1), 480(e), 2559.2(b), and CCR title 16 §1399.270). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action.**



Ask an Analyst is Here!

Do You Have a General Question?

Submit your questions to **optometry@dca.ca.gov** and look for the answer in the next edition of the *The Spectacle*! Be sure to include *The Spectacle* in the subject line.

How Are We Doing?

The California State Board of Optometry strives to provide the best possible customer service. Please help us by taking a few minutes to complete our brief customer service satisfaction survey here. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

California State Board of Optometry

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www.optometry.ca.gov

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

PDE_24-386



THE SPECTACLE

The California State Board of Optometry protects the health and safety of California consumers through licensing and regulation of the practices of optometry and opticianry.

SUMMERTIME!

Welcome to the summer 2024 edition of the Spectacle! In this issue, you will find the following updates:

- New Board Officers Elected
- Guest Article—Culturally Competent Care: Latinos en Optometry
- Fee Increase Effective July 1, 2024
- Board Releases Regulations to Increase Access to Care
- NBEO Part III PEPS Goes Live
- CSBO Exam Vendor Updates Testing Platform with New Accessibility Tools
- Wear Sunglasses and Protect Your Eye Health
- We Need You! Subject Matter Expert Recruitment
- Recent Disciplinary Actions

Keep reading to get the latest news and updates from the Board!

New Board Officers Elected

Every year the Board must elect from its members a president, vice president, and secretary charged with assisting the Executive Officer in facilitating the functions of the Board. The Board began the nominating process earlier this year and elected new officers at the May 31, 2024, public board meeting, for one-year terms effective July 1, 2024. The following officers were elected:



Dr. Jeffrey Garcia, O.D., Elected President—Dr. Garcia, O.D., was appointed to the Board by Governor Gavin Newsom as a professional member on August 17, 2020, and reappointed by Governor Newsom on May 23, 2023. Dr. Garcia, O.D., is an optometrist and has been the owner of Family Eye Care Optometry since 1996. Dr. Garcia, O.D., has been an adjunct clinical assistant professor for the Southern California College of Optometry since 2014 and an auxiliary clinical faculty for Western College of Optometry since 2013. Dr. Garcia, O.D., is a retired Navy captain, having served as both a hospital corpsman and an optometrist from 1985 to 2018. Dr. Garcia, O.D., is a member of the American Optometric Association and California Optometric Association. He earned a Doctor of Optometry degree from the Southern California College of Optometry.



Eunie Linden, J.D., Elected Vice President—Ms. Linden was appointed to the Board by the California Senate Rules Committee as a public member on March 19, 2021, and reappointed on June 21, 2023. Ms. Linden is an attorney who previously worked as a consultant for the California State Assembly Committee on Business and Professions. Ms. Linden also worked for the California Office of Legislative Counsel as a Deputy Legislative Counsel. Most recently, Ms. Linden was an in-house volunteer attorney with Legal Services of Northern California. Ms. Linden graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law in 2011. Ms. Linden also earned a bachelor's degree from California State University, Long Beach, in 2005, and a Master of Public Policy degree from the University of California, Los Angeles, in 2008.



Dr. Stacy Bragg, O.D., Elected Secretary—Dr. Bragg, O.D., was appointed to the Board by Governor Gavin Newsom on May 23, 2023. Dr. Bragg, O.D., has been a telehealth optometrist at Empire Vision Center since 2022 and an optometrist at Regency Eye Care Inc. since 2017. She was an optometrist at Stacy A. Bragg, O.D., Inc. from 2016 to 2017. She was a managing optometrist for EYEXAM of California, Inc. from 2014 to 2016. She was an independent subleasing optometrist at FirstSight Vision Services, Inc. from 2005 to 2014. Dr. Bragg, O.D., earned a doctorate degree in optometry from Pacific University College of Optometry and a Bachelor of Science in biology from Mercer University.

Congratulations to the 2024–25 Board officers!

Culturally Competent Care: Latinos en Optometry

by Gary Esterow, Executive Director, Latinos en Optometry

Latinos en Optometry seeks broader representation of Latinos and Spanish-speaking professionals within optometry

Health care professionals are ethically and professionally obliged to provide the best possible care that supports the health and well-being of all patients, irrespective of personal identities and characteristics.

Patients and health care providers bring to the table a wide cross-cultural array of clinically relevant needs, attitudes, customs, values, beliefs, preferences, assumptions, expectations, practices, and fears that decode experiences, shape perspectives, affect decisions, and drive behavior.[1]

To achieve optimum vision and eye health for everyone, it is important for optometrists, opticians, optical staff, and optometry students to understand how diversity influences care and affects outcomes.

Latinos/Hispanics and Eye Care

The Latino/Hispanic community continues to grow as a percentage of the U.S. population.

The Census Bureau estimates there were roughly 63.7 million Hispanics in the U.S. as of 2022, a new high. Hispanic people represent more than 39 percent of California's population. They represent up to 19% of the nation's population,[2] and according to U.S. Census Bureau projections, Latinos are expected to be 21% by 2030.[3] By 2040, one of every four Americans will be of Latin-American culture.[4]

Yet, Latinos are not represented in the health care workforce at rates comparable to their share of the general population. With respect to Optometry:

- Currently, only 5.2% of U.S. optometrists are Latino, according to research from the career resource site Zippia.[5] (In California, Hispanics make up less than 6% of licensed optometrists.[6])
- For the 2023–2024 cycle, the Optometry Centralized Application Service (OptomCAS), a service of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO) shows a decline in the number of Hispanic/Latino applicants to U.S. schools of optometry from the previous year.

Diversity Awareness and Cultural Competence in Optometry

According to the National Eye Institute, the Latino population has some of the highest rates of eye disease and visual impairment caused by eye diseases like diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma, and a significant number may be unaware of their eye disease.[7] In a study conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research,[8] more than half of Hispanic adults say they have encountered a communication barrier in the health care system, and they turn to a variety of formal and informal sources for help in overcoming these obstacles.

"These and other findings demonstrate an ever-increasing need for Latino (and Spanish-speaking) doctors of optometry, opticians, and other eye care professionals," says Latinos en Optometry co-founder Diana Canto-Sims, O.D. In 2021, Dr. Canto-Sims, founder of Buena Vista Optical, a fully bilingual eye care clinic and eyewear boutique in Chicago, and Lawrence Chavez, founder and CEO of EveryDay Contacts, Inc., founded Latinos en Optometry with goals of increasing the number of qualified Latino students applying to optometry schools, helping eye care professionals deliver eye health care in a culturally mindful manner, and generating greater public awareness and understanding of the need for eye care among the Latin American population.

"A preponderance of scientific evidence supports the importance of increasing racial and ethnic diversity among health care professionals," says Dr. Canto-Sims. "Greater diversity among health professionals is associated with improved access to care for racial and ethnic minority patients, greater patient choice and satisfaction, better patient–provider communication and better

Continued on page 4

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educational experiences for all students in training. Furthermore, it is important for non-Latino health care providers to improve their Spanish language communication skills, especially if practicing in areas where most of the patient population speaks Spanish and/or has limited English proficiency."

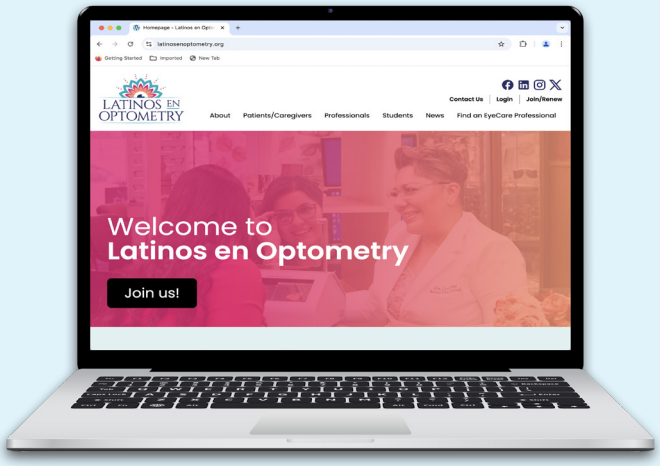
To help optometrists and optometry students understand how diversity influences care and affects patient outcomes, Latinos en Optometry Board member Glenda Aleman-Moheeputh, O.D., along with Edward Lawrence Jones, O.D., HIS, immediate past president of the National Optometric Association, and Linda Shi, O.D., president of the Asian American Optometric Society (AAOS), the largest optometric society in California, will be participating in a panel discussion on **Cultural Competency in Eye Care** on the Innovation Stage at Vision Expo West on Friday, September 20, 11 a.m.–11:45 a.m.

Join Latinos en Optometry

Membership in Latinos en Optometry is free to all students interested in a career in Optometry or related eye care professions, those currently enrolled in a certified college of optometry, allied health profession, education, and rehabilitation program or in an optometric residency or a fellowship program. Low-cost professional membership is also available, with discounts to first-year practitioners and retired professionals who wish to support the activities of the association. All 2024 memberships run through December 31, 2025. Eye care provider members are listed in Latinos en Optometry's "Find an Eye Care Professional" section to help patients find eye care professionals in their area. Providers are able to note if doctors and/or staff at their practice speak Spanish.

The group's website (**www.latinosenoptometry.org**) features information and resources for prospective and current optometry students, including a series of archived and upcoming free webinars, supported by Transitions Optical, in which Latinos en Optometry Board members share their experiences and offer advice to support and inspire students to consider a career in Optometry. "We need to expose more students to potential careers in Optometry so they can see how it might fit into their passions, interests, skills, and lifestyle and career aspirations," says Howard Purcell, O.D., FAAO, president and CEO, New England College of Optometry and one of the co-founders of Latinos en Optometry.

"We are so pleased that the California State Board of Optometry shares Latino en Optometry's commitment to helping current and future eye care professionals deliver eye health care in a culturally mindful manner through ongoing education and resources," says Dr. Canto-Sims. "Diversity and cultural competency are strengths and assets that will help us create a future with more quality and equitable eye care experiences and healthier outcomes for all."



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4. "Connecting Across Cultures: How to Reach Out to Hispanics," review of optometry, **https://www.reviewofoptometry.com/article/connecting-across-cultures-how-to-reach-out-to-hispanics**). Accessed November 8, 2023.
5. Optometrist Demographics and Statistics in the U.S., **https://www.zippia.com/optometrist-jobs/demographics/**. Accessed November 8, 2023.
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7. National Eye Institute, **https://www.nei.nih.gov/about/news-and-events/news/us-latinos-have-high-rates-eye-disease-and-visual-impairment** Accessed November 8, 2023.
8. **Communication and Long-Term Care: Technology Use and Cultural Barriers Among Hispanics**, AP/NORC, accessed March 7, 2024.

Fee Increase Effective July 1, 2024



In 2023, the Board enacted regulations to increase most application, licensing, registration, and renewal fees. The regulations took effect in December 2023, but the Board delayed the implementation until July 1, 2024, providing time for the Board's systems to be updated and for applicants and licensees to have sufficient foreknowledge of the increase. Information about why the Board raised the fees can be found on the Board's website in both the **approved regulations** section and in the **winter 2024 edition of this newsletter**. The Board also sent Listserv messages and posted on its social media channels. The updated fees can be found at these links: **Optometry** and **Opticianry**. Please contact the Board at **optometrylicensing@dca.ca.gov** with any questions.

Board Releases Regulations to Increase Access to Care

The Board recently released two proposed regulations now out for public comment. The **Home Residence Permit Program** was released for 45 day public comment on July 19, ending September 3, and the proposal would help expand access to eye care to the homebound, enabling underserved or vulnerable populations to receive comprehensive eye care within the comfort of their own residence, while also providing consumer protection, by having a way to track licensees working out of the home via the issuance of a permit.

The second proposal, released on August 9 for a 45 day public comment period ending September 23, would authorize optometrists to use **Radio Frequency Technology or Devices** when treating dry eye syndrome. Expanding the allowable noninvasive treatment options that an optometrist can use to treat dry eye will positively benefit Californians who are suffering from dry eye disease. As patients suffering from this condition have their symptoms alleviated, their quality of life should also improve.

Please visit the Board's **Proposed Regulations** webpage to learn more about these regulations. Any comments regarding these proposed regulations may be sent to **optometry@dca.ca.gov**.

New National Board Part III Exam is Live

The National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) Part III exam, previously called Clinical Skills, effective August 2024, is now the Patient Encounters and Performance Skills (PEPS) exam.

The Part III PEPS exam was developed to not only evaluate essential skills, but also to measure a candidate's ability to apply evidence-based knowledge to patient care. The new exam moves beyond the assessment of the physical ability to perform the skill to also measure a candidate's cognitive ability to interpret the result and apply that knowledge directly to patient care.

For additional information, please visit the following links on the NBEO website:

- **Part III PEPS Candidate Guide**
- **Site Information and Equipment List**
- Evaluation Forms
  - » **Anterior Segment Skills Evaluation Form**
  - » **Posterior Segment Skills Evaluation Form**
  - » **Patient Encounters Evaluation Form Candidate Evaluation Form**
- **FAQ's**
- **Blueprint/Model**

Here is more information from NBEO regarding the new Part III PEPS exam:

Announcement Video



Information Video



Wear Sunglasses to Protect Your Eye Health



In summer, the sun's intensity increases, making it crucial to prioritize eye protection. From an eye health perspective, wearing sunglasses during the summer months is not just a matter of comfort but an essential practice for maintaining long-term eye health:

1. Intense Ultraviolet Radiation
In summer, the days are long, and the sun is higher in the sky, resulting in increased ultraviolet radiation. Ultraviolet sun rays are invisible but can cause significant harm to eyes over time. Prolonged ultraviolet exposure is linked to many eye conditions, such as:

- Cataracts: Ultraviolet radiation accelerates the formation of cataracts, a clouding of the eye's lens that impairs vision. Cataracts can become more severe without adequate ultraviolet protection.
- Macular Degeneration: Chronic ultraviolet exposure can contribute to age-related macular degeneration, which affects the central retina and can lead to vision loss.
- Photokeratitis: Commonly known as "sunburn of the eye," this condition can cause pain, redness, and temporary vision impairment, especially if you spend extended periods outdoors without protection.

Wearing sunglasses with 100% ultraviolet protection help shield the eyes from these harmful sun rays, reducing the risk of developing these conditions.

2. Reduced Glare and Eye Strain
Summer sun can create intense glare, especially when reflecting off surfaces like water, sand, or roads. This glare can cause significant eye strain, leading to discomfort, headaches, and difficulty seeing clearly. Sunglasses with polarized lenses are particularly effective in reducing glare by filtering out horizontally polarized light. This not only enhances visual comfort but also improves clarity and reduces the need to squint.

3. Protection from Environmental Factors
Summer activities often involve exposure to environmental elements that can affect your eyes. Sunglasses provide a barrier against:

- Dust and Debris: Wind and outdoor activities can stir up particles that might irritate or damage your eyes. Sunglasses help keep these elements out of the eyes.
- Insects: Sunglasses can act as a shield against flying insects, reducing the risk of eye irritation or injury.

4. Preserving Long-Term Eye Health
Regular exposure to intense sunlight without adequate protection can lead to cumulative damage over the years. Wearing sunglasses consistently during summer helps mitigate this risk and promotes long-term eye health. The protection offered by sunglasses can delay the onset of age-related eye conditions and maintain overall visual function.

5. Enhancing Visual Comfort and Performance
For those engaging in summer sports or outdoor activities, sunglasses play a vital role in improving visual performance. They can enhance contrast, reduce glare, and provide better visual acuity, which is particularly important for activities like driving, boating, or playing sports. Proper eyewear can enhance your performance and safety by providing clearer vision and reducing visual fatigue.

Choosing the Right Sunglasses

When selecting sunglasses for summer, consider the following factors:

- **Ultraviolet Protection**: Ensure that the sunglasses block 100% of ultraviolet-A and ultraviolet-B rays. This is crucial for effective protection.
- **Lens Quality**: Choose lenses that are free of distortions and provide clear vision. Polarized lenses are beneficial for reducing glare.
- **Fit and Coverage**: Choose sunglasses that fit well and offer sufficient coverage to protect your eyes from all angles. Wraparound styles or large frames can provide additional protection.

Utilize the Board's online license lookup tool, **DCA Search**, and make an appointment with a licensed optometrist to discuss options to protect your eyes in summer.

Find Us on Social Media

The Board regularly posts on all its social media platforms **Facebook**, **Instagram**, **LinkedIn**, **Twitter**.

Did you know that the Board also has an email list? If social media is not your thing, but you still want to stay up to date with the Board updates and happenings like optometry/optician regulations and legislation, public board meeting announcements/agendas, the Spectacle, SME workshops, and all other Board related updates, subscribe **here**.

CSBO Exam Vendor Updates Testing Platform with New Accessibility Tools

The Board utilizes an exam vendor to administer the California Law and Regulations Examination that all optometrist applicants must successfully pass. Beginning in mid August 2024, the Board's exam vendor, PSI, has enhanced their testing delivery system. The new delivery system provides several reasonable accommodation enhancements. Five new accessibility features are now available:

- Magnifier: the magnifier tool shows text at twice the size of the original content. When enabled, an option is added into the Tools menu to provide the candidate the opportunity to magnify the page content. When launched, a magnifier box appears over the page content. The text within the magnifier box will be twice the size of the original content.
- Contrast selection: The contrast selection tool shows different contrast options available to the test taker. Selecting a high color contrast will show a darker border around the page. Test takers will also be able to select high color contrast inverted which will invert the page background to black with white text.
- Keyboard shortcuts: Test takers will be able to access keyboard shortcuts, which will display on their screen a variety of different keyboard shortcut options to assist the test taker access the exam.
- Comment button: Test takers will have the ability to provide comments and feedback on one or more questions within the exam.
- Index button: Test takers will have the ability to see a list of all questions in the exam. This enables the test taker to navigate to a specific question, see questions that are unanswered, or questions the test taker may have flagged to come back to.

Beginning in August, all test takers will first have access to a tutorial of these features before they begin the exam. Please contact the Board via email at **optometrylicensing@dca.ca.gov** with any questions.

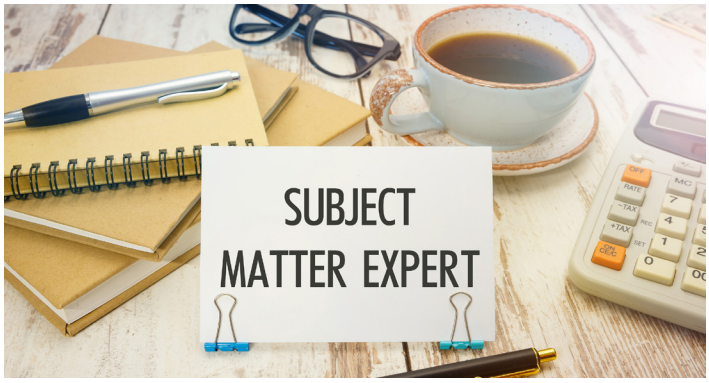
We Need You! Subject Matter Expert Recruitment

Would you like to earn up to **12 CE hours per renewal period**, get paid up to $200 per day, and give back to your profession? Become a Board Subject Matter Expert (SME)! The California Laws and Regulations Examination (CLRE) taken by new optometrist applicants is developed by SMEs. Join us to help ensure that the CLRE accurately reflects the tasks and knowledge required to practice in California. All travel, hotel, and meal expenses are reimbursed at the state rate.

Exam development not your thing? The Board also needs expert witnesses to assist the enforcement program in protecting consumers of optometric services. An expert witness is any licensee possessing technical or professional knowledge gained from advanced education and/or extensive work experience that enables the individual to form a definite opinion in an area of expertise in the standard of care for the profession. Expert witnesses are asked to review confidential case material, prepare written reports and, possibly, testify at administrative hearings. Their reports and/or findings may result in a disciplinary action against an optometrist. The Board pays experts at the rate of:

- $100 an hour for record review and preparation of a written report.
- $150 an hour for testimony at a hearing.

To participate, all licensees must:



- Hold a current active license with a glaucoma certification and be practicing in California.
- Be in good standing with the Board.
- For exam development SMEs: Newly licensed optometrists within five years of graduation are highly encouraged to apply!
- For expert witness SMEs: Licensed optometrists with technical and professional expertise demonstrating ability to form expert opinions about the standard of care in optometry.

To register as an exam development SME, interested licensees please reach out to **dcaopessme@dca.ca.gov**.

To apply to be an expert witness for the Board, visit: **Expert Witness Recruitment**.



Recent Disciplinary Actions Taken by the Board

For the most current list of citations issued and disciplinary actions, please visit **www.optometry.ca.gov/consumers/disciplinary.shtml**.

The Board provides information regarding administrative disciplinary actions for immediate access and convenience of interested persons. You can also access the "Online License Verification" to verify if a licensed optometrist has had any disciplinary action taken against their license or to verify the status of a license.

While the Board believes the information to be reliable, human or technical error remains a possibility, as does a possible delay in posting or updating information.

CITATIONS AND FINES

Alexander Daas (RDO 70522)—Los Angeles
On April 25, 2024, by Settlement, a $1,500 citation was issued to Alexander Daas (RDO 70522), for failure to provide a copy of a sublease with an optometrist upon Board request and provided false information to the Board (BPC §§655(d)(15), and 2555.5(e)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the registrant's registration profile.**

Atkins II, Daryl Andre (SLD 5243, CLD 1471)—Los Angeles
On March 8, 2024, by Default Decision, a $1,500 a citation was issued to Daryl Andre Atkins II (SLD 5243, CLD 1471) for the an act of dishonesty and the conviction of an offense that is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a registered optician (BPC §§2555.5(a),(e), and (k)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the registrant's SLD profile** and **the registrant's CLD profile.**

Bahram, Hooria (OPT 13668)—Westlake Village
On May 21, 2024, a $2,100 citation was issued to Hooria Bahram (OPT 13668) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle (BPC§§ 3110(a)(j) 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)(l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Bittel, Charles F, III (OPT 13002)—Yorba Linda
On March 7, 2024, a $650 citation was issued to Charles F. Bittel, III (OPT 13002) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2020–2022 renewal (BPC §§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Bowlin, Heather Waddell (OPT 8678)—Fresno
On July 9, 2024, a $1,700.00 citation was issued to Heather Waddell Bowlin (OPT 8678) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle and certifying her license renewal the requirements were met . (BPC §§ 3110(a) & (j), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Chen, Emelline (OPT 34209)—Wildomar
On July 18, 2024, a $650 citation was issued to Emelline Chen (OPT 34209) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021-2023 renewal cycle. (BPC §§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

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Chu, Marlena Akiko (OPT 13584)—Berkeley
On June 6, 2024, a $650 citation was issued to Marlena Akiko Chu (OPT 13584) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle. (BPC §§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Chia, Kimberly Hope (OPT 34097)—Vallejo
On April 23, 2024, a $650.00 citation was issued to Kimberly Hope Chia (OPT 34097), for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal (BPC §§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the registrant's/doctor's license profile.**

Fisher, Sarah Norma Glenn (OPT 10584)—Berkeley
On May 21, 2024, a $2,000 citation was issued to Sarah Norma Glenn Fisher (OPT 10584) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle and certifying her license renewal the requirements were met (BPC§§ 3110(a)(j), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Friden, Jonathan C. (OPT 13301)—Quincy
On March 7, 2024, a $650 citation was issued to Jonathan Charles Friden (OPT 13301) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2020–2022 renewal (BPC §§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b) & (l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Goldstein, Ronald L. (OPT 4251)—Thousand Oaks
On July 9, 2024, a $1,850.00 citation was issued to Ronald L. Goldstein (OPT 4251) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021-2023 renewal cycle. (BPC §§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b) and (l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Hawley, Terry Whitesides (OPT 6947)—Rolling Hills Estates
On April 11, 2024, a $650 citation was issued to Terry Whitesides Hawley (OPT 6947) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2020–2022 renewal cycle (BPC §§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Hill, David Joseph (OPT 5538)—West Covina
On May 21, 2024, a $2,500 citation was issued to David Joseph Hill (OPT 5538) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle and certifying on his license renewal the requirements were met (BPC§§ 3110(a)(j), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)(l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Le, David Quang (OPT 12393)—Galt
On May 28, 2024, a $400 modified citation was issued to David Quang Le (OPT 12393) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal. (BPC §§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536 (b)) **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Mancilla, Raul Alex (OPT 12705)—El Centro
On March 28, 2024, a $900 citation was issued to Raul Alex Mancilla (OPT12705) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2020–2022 renewal and certifying under penalty of perjury on his license renewal that the CE requirements were met (BPC §§ 3110(a)(j), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Park, Alexander Y.J. (OPT 13599)—Panorama City
On July 9, 2024, a $900.00 citation was issued to Alexander Y.J. Park (OPT 13599) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle and certifying his license renewal the requirements were met. (BPC §§ 3110(a) & (j), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b) & (l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Pouw, Cindy (OPT 34205)—West Covina
On May 21, 2024, a $900 citation was issued to Cindy Pouw (OPT 34205) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle and certifying on her license renewal the requirements were met (BPC§§ 3110(a)(j), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Quach, Katee Phoi (OPT 13057)—Pomona
On April 18, 2024, a $650 citation was issued to Katee Phoi Quach (OPT 13057) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023. (BPC §§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536 (l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

San Francisco Optics on Chestnut (RDO 7212)—San Francisco
On April 25, 2024, by Settlement, a $500 citation was issued to San Francisco Optics on Chestnut (RDO 7212), for failure to provide a copy of a sublease agreement with an optometrist upon Board request (BPC §§655(d)(15)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the registrant's registration profile.**

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Sirounian, Sona (OPT 13549)—Sylmar
On July 25, 2024, a $1,850 citation was issued to Sona Sirounian (OPT 13549) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle. (BPC§§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)(l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Smith, Texas L. (OPT 4722)—Citrus Heights
On May 21, 2024, a $1,300 citation was issued to Texas L. Smith (OPT 4722) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle and certifying on his license renewal the requirements were met (BPC§§ 3110(a)(j) 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Threlkeld, Benjamin Single (OPT 11278)—Palo Alto
On July 9, 2024, a $2,500.00 citation was issued to Benjamin S. Threlkeld (OPT 11278) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021-2023 renewal cycle and certifying his license renewal the requirements were met. (BPC §§ 3110(a) & (j), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

Truong, Henry Hoai (OPT 13605)—Santa Clara
On July 9, 2024, a $2,500.00 citation was issued to Henry Hoai Truong (OPT 13605) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2021–2023 renewal cycle and certifying his license renewal the requirements were met. (BPC §§ 3110(a) & (j), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b) & (l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile.**

PENDING ACCUSATIONS

Burkart, Kieth Jerome (OPT 5639)—Lake Arrowhead
On April 24, 2024, an Accusation was filed against the license of Kieth Jerome Burkart (OPT 5639), for Gross Negligence, Failure to Refer to an Appropriate Physician, and Unprofessional Conduct (BPC §§ 3110, 3110(b), 3110(y)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or view the doctor's profile.**

Hsu, Jean W. (OPT 12142)—Santa Clara
On May 3, 2024, an Accusation was filed against the license of Jean W. Hsu (OPT 12142), for Unprofessional Conduct (BPC §§ 3110(b), (c), (d), (q), and (y)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or view the doctor's profile.**

Stewart, James Albert (OPT 7582)—Fresno
On April 25, 2024, an Accusation was filed against the license of James Albert Stewart (OPT 7582) for being Unsafe to Practice, Unprofessional Conduct, and Repeated Negligent Acts. (BPC §§822, 3110, and 3110(c)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or view the doctor's profile.**

PROBATION

EyeNoon Optical (RDO 71134)
Wooyeon Lee (SLD 42244 and CLD 8888)—Los Angeles
Effective June 13, 2024, the registrations of EyeNoon Optical (RDO 71134) and Wooyeon Lee (SLD 4224 and CLD 8888), were revoked, the revocations stayed, and the registrations were placed on probation for three years for Unprofessional Conduct and vetting and facilitating the employment of an unlicensed individual to perform optometry services. **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or view the registrant's RDO profile**, **SLD profile**, and **CLD profile**.

STATEMENT OF ISSUES

Zegarra, Adrianna Guisella (SLD Applicant)
On April 2, 2024, a Statement of Issues was filed against Adrianna Guisella Zegarra following the denial of her application for registration as a Spectacle Lens Dispenser. The basis for the denial was a Criminal Conviction: DUI, and Acts Warranting Denial of Licensure (BPC §§ 475(a)(4); 480(a)(2); and 3110(h). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action.**

Ask an Analyst is Here!

Do You Have a General Question?

Submit your questions to **optometry@dca.ca.gov** and look for the answer in the next edition of the *The Spectacle*! Be sure to include *The Spectacle* in the subject line.

How Are We Doing?

The California State Board of Optometry strives to provide the best possible customer service. Please help us by taking a few minutes to complete our brief customer service satisfaction survey here. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

California State Board of Optometry

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www.optometry.ca.gov

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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THE SPECTACLE

The California State Board of Optometry protects the health and safety of California consumers through licensing and regulation of the practices of optometry and opticianry.

SPRING IS HERE!

Welcome to the spring 2024 edition of *The Spectacle!* In this issue, you will find a detailed update on upcoming National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) Part III changes; continuing education (CE) courses available in topics of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB); information about eyeglass donation programs; information about the California State Board of Optometry's revised and updated California Laws and Regulations Examination Candidate Information Bulletin; licensing options when ceasing practice; an introduction to the newest board member; information about optician schools; information about the Board's Immunization Certificate; recent enforcement actions; and more. Keep reading to get the latest news and updates from the Board!

Upcoming National Board Part III Exam Changes

The NBEO was established in 1951, and is an independent, nongovernmental, nonprofit organization whose examinations are universally accepted for optometric licensure in the United States and accepted internationally. Its mission is to protect the public by developing, administering, scoring, and reporting results of valid examinations that assess competency in optometry.

The Board uses the following NBEO examinations:

- Part I – Applied Basic Science.
- Part II – Patient Assessment and Management.
- Part III – Clinical Skills.
- Treatment and Management of Ocular Disease (TMOD).

The NBEO Part III exam—currently called Clinical Skills—will have a new title and, effective August 2024, will be named the Patient Encounters and Performance Skills (PEPS) exam.

The Part III exam had been developed to not only evaluate essential skills, but also to measure a candidate's ability to apply evidence-based knowledge to patient care. The new exam moves beyond the assessment of the physical ability to perform the skill to also measure a candidate's cognitive ability to interpret the result and apply that knowledge directly to patient care.

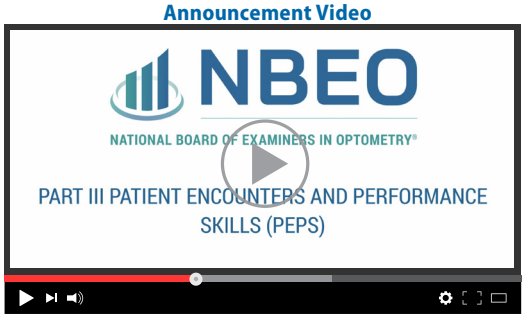
Registration for the next NBEO Part III PEPS examination opened on Tuesday, March 26, 2024.

For additional information, please visit the following links on the NBEO website:

- **Part III PEPS Candidate Guide**.
- **Site Information and Equipment List**.
- Evaluation Forms
  - » **Anterior Segment Skills Evaluation Form**.
  - » **Posterior Segment Skills Evaluation Form**.
  - » **Patient Encounters Evaluation Form Candidate Evaluation Form**.
- **FAQs**.
- **Blueprint/Model**.

Here is more information from NBEO regarding the new Part III PEPS exam:

Announcement Video



Information Video



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

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

COPE ID	Course Title	Total Hours	Instructor	Category	Format	Expires
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

Donate Your Used Eyeglasses and Give the Gift of Sight

Vision is an essential part of daily life. Poor vision can negatively affect a person's independence, cognition, and mental health, while increasing the risk of injury. Yet, many people around the world do not have access to the vision care they need, including access to eyeglasses. This is where eyeglass donations come into play. Donating used eyeglasses can make a significant difference in the lives of individuals who cannot afford them on their own, and by helping to improve their vision, help them regain their independence and improve the quality of their lives.

The Need for Eyeglasses

According to the World Health Organization, approximately 2.2 billion people worldwide have a vision impairment or blindness, and at least 1 billion have a vision impairment that could have been prevented or has yet to be addressed. In California, millions of people do not have access to vision care, and children, the elderly, and historically marginalized and underrepresented populations are disproportionately impacted. Many of these individuals live in settings where access to eye care services is limited or non existent. The donation of used eyeglasses could help address this need.

The Impact of Eyeglass Donation

Donating eyeglasses is a simple act that can have a profound impact. Here's how:

1. **Improving Lives** Eyeglasses can dramatically improve the quality of life for individuals with vision impairments, enabling them to read, work, and live independently.
2. **Promoting Education** For children, having the right pair of glasses can significantly enhance learning and comprehension, leading to better educational outcomes.
3. **Boosting Economy** Adults who receive donated glasses can increase their productivity at work, potentially boosting the local economy.

How Eyeglass Donation Works

Organizations collect used eyeglasses and sort them by prescription strength. The glasses are then cleaned and repaired if necessary. These glasses are then distributed to individuals in need, either for free or at a very low cost.

The Board has found the following organizations specifically engaged in collecting and disseminating used eyeglasses. Click these links to learn more:

- **Lions Clubs International Lions In Sight.**
- **Respectacle.**
- **Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity.**

How do these programs work? Typically, the programs partner with locations to establish drop off boxes that collect used eyeglasses. For example, the Lions In Sight program, which has been operating for decades in California and Nevada, has more than 400 drop off locations, with most located in California. The boxes are periodically checked and must be delivered to a Lions In Sight affiliated drop off location or mailed to the Lions In Sight warehouse located in Vallejo. Lions In Sight publishes a list of more than 400 drop off locations, which can be accessed **online**. More than 95% of the locations are in California and donation boxes may be found at diverse places, including grocery stores, optometric colleges, and at many licensed locations across the state such as optometric offices and dispensing locations.

Give the Gift of Sight!

Eyeglass donation is a powerful tool in the fight against vision impairment. By donating your used eyeglasses, you're not just recycling an old item you're giving someone the gift of sight. So, the next time you get a new pair of glasses, consider donating your old ones. It's a small act of kindness that can make a world of difference.

Click to Find an Eyeglass Donation Location



Who's New at the Board?



1. **Hi, my name is**
   Alex Clemens.
2. **What I do in my day job:**
   I'm a strategic communications consultant. I advise businesses and people as they talk with the government and the media.
3. **I like:**
   Spending time with my family, cheering on Bay Area sports teams, finding an undiscovered gem of a restaurant, and playing a friendly game of poker with old friends.
4. **I applied for Board membership because:**
   I believe in the importance of principled, ethical public service. I worked for the local and federal government early in my career and have missed it since leaving. I've worn glasses since age 3. My acute nearsightedness draws me close to the Board's mission.
5. **Consumer protection is important because:**
   Government's most important job is preserving the safety of their people. Making sure that the professionals and companies that serve the public are following the rules is something we should all support.
6. **What I hope to achieve as a board member:**
   Many of my colleagues on the board have years of postgraduate training, plus decades of experience in the field. I'm in a public seat, and I hope to well represent the people who use glasses and contact lenses, and who see opticians and optometrists. I'll work to help amplify the Board's communications with the general public, as well.
7. **What does your perfect day look like?**
   It starts with hot coffee and family time, where the kids show off their latest great test scores; continues at work where I help a client solve a knotty problem; shifts to a happy hour where I catch up on the latest with some political friends; and ends at dinner with my wife at that undiscovered gem of a restaurant mentioned earlier.
8. **My personal mantra or motto:**
   If the elevator tries to break you down, go crazy: Punch a higher floor!
9. **What I'm listening to or reading right now:**
   I'm reading Infinite Jest and The 48 Laws of Power, and listening to Kacey Musgraves and old Pearl Jam. (And yes, this answer could have been 14 pages long.)
10. **My superpower is:**
    Building good teams and empowering colleagues to excel professionally. (A close second: inventing a plausible haiku about anything in 20 seconds or less.)



1. **Hi, my name is**
   Martin Dawson.
2. **What I do in my day job:**
   I'm an Academy Manager with Prison Fellowship Ministries.
3. **I like:**
   Quality time with my wife and kids.
4. **I applied for Board membership because:**
   It's an amazing opportunity to be of service.
5. **Consumer protection is important because:**
   Every person has value and rights—but not always a voice.
6. **What I hope to achieve as a board member:**
   To be that voice.
7. **What does your perfect day look like?**
   Maybe a great movie and meal.
8. **My personal mantra or motto:**
   "For with God nothing shall be impossible." (Luke 1:37)
9. **What I'm listening to or reading right now:**
   DKG KIE, "Detroit Freestyle 4" (listening), and C.S. Lewis, "Mere Christianity" (reading).
10. **My superpower is:**
    I'm still working on this one. :-)

Subject Matter Expert Recruitment for Exam Workshops and Expert Witnesses

Would you like to earn up to **12 CE hours per renewal period**, get paid up to $200 per day, and give back to your profession? Become a Board subject matter expert (SME)! The California Laws and Regulations Examination (CLRE) taken by new optometrist applicants is developed by SMEs. Join us to help ensure that the CLRE accurately reflects the tasks and knowledge required to practice in California. All travel, hotel, and meal expenses are reimbursed at the state rate!

Exam development not your thing? The Board also needs expert witnesses to assist the Enforcement Program in protecting consumers of optometric services. An expert witness is any licensee possessing technical or professional knowledge gained from advanced education and/or extensive work experience that enables the individual to form a definite opinion in an area of expertise in the standard of care for the profession. Expert witnesses are asked to review confidential case material, prepare written reports, and possibly testify at administrative hearings. Their reports and/or findings may result in a disciplinary action against an optometrist. The Board pays experts at the rate of:

- $100 an hour for record review and preparation of a written report.
- $150 an hour for testimony at a hearing.



To participate, all licensees must:

- Hold a current active license with a glaucoma certification and be practicing in California.
- Be in good standing with the Board.
- For Exam Development SMEs: Newly licensed optometrists within five years of graduation are highly encouraged to apply!
- For Expert Witness SMEs: Licensed optometrists with technical and professional expertise demonstrating ability to form expert opinions about the standard of care in optometry.

To register as an Exam Development SME, interested licensees please reach out to **dcaopessme@dca.ca.gov**. To apply to be an expert witness for the Board, visit **Expert Witness Recruitment**.

California Law and Regulations Exam Information Bulletin Updated!

The Board is thrilled to announce the release of the **2024 California Law and Regulations Candidate Information Bulletin** (CIB). The CIB is provided to every exam candidate and includes helpful information about testing development, test locations, and instructions for taking and completing the exam. The 2024 CLRE CIB contains working links to the laws and regulations that candidates will need to know to successfully pass the exam. For the first time, the Board is publishing sample questions with an answer key, one from each content area assessed on the exam, to assist applicants in their exam preparations. Every exam candidate is strongly encouraged to read the CLRE CIB. Please access the 2024 CLRE CIB **online**. Email **optometrylicensing@dca.ca.gov** with any questions.



Options Available to Optometrist Licensees When Ceasing Practice

WHEN YOU OBTAIN DELINQUENT STATUS:

- You are not allowed to practice.
- Delinquent Status is obtained by not renewing your license on time.
- License will automatically cancel after three years.
- License can return to Active Status after meeting the following requirements:
  - » Paying required fees and any delinquency fees.
  - » Providing proof of CE compliance (if less than three years in delinquent status).
  - » Taking and passing the CLRE and NBEO Clinical Skills Exam (if more than three years in delinquent status).
  - » Requirements may vary if you have an active license in another state.

Authority cited: Business and Professions Code (BPC) §§ 3040, 3147, 3147.6, 3147.7, 3152.

WHEN YOU OBTAIN INACTIVE STATUS:

- No practice allowed.
- Cannot indicate you have an active license.
- Can be selected on your regular license renewal.
- Must be renewed every two years.
- No CE is required for inactive status renewal.
- Renewal fee is the same as an active license.

License can return to active status with proof of CE compliance and payment of renewal fee, if due.

Authority cited: BPC §§ 700 704.

WHEN YOU OBTAIN RETIRED STATUS:

- No practice allowed.
- Can only use the titles "retired optometrist" or "optometrist, retired."
- Obtained by submitting **an application** and $25 fee available on BREEZE.
- Cannot be renewed.
- License can return to active status after meeting the following requirements:
  - » Pay required fees and any delinquency fees.
  - » Provide proof of CE compliance (if less than three years in Retired Status). Take and pass the CLRE and NBEO Clinical Skills Exam (if more than three years in Retired Status).

Authority cited: BPC §§ 3151 3152.

WHEN YOU OBTAIN RETIRED VOLUNTEER STATUS:

- Can practice on an unpaid basis only and only at health fairs, visions screenings, and public service eye programs.
- Obtained by submitting **an application** and $50 fee available on BREEZE.
- Must be renewed every two years.
- Renewal fee is $50.
- Continuing education is required for renewal.
- License can return to Active Status after meeting the following requirements:
  - » Pay required fees and any delinquency fees.
  - » Provide proof of CE compliance (if less than three years in Retired Volunteer status).

Authority cited: BPC §§ 3151.1 3152.

Please contact **OptometryLicensing@dca.ca.gov** if you have questions about your licensure status.

Optician Training Programs in California

Here in the Golden State, individuals interested in pursuing a career in opticianry have a variety of educational opportunities. The Board's Optician Program has four license types:

- **Registered Dispensing Ophthalmic Business**—For businesses that offer the fit and adjustment of spectacles and/or contact lens and fulfill prescriptions for ophthalmic devices ordered by optometrists or physicians and surgeons.
- **Registered Spectacle Lens Dispenser**—For those who have passed the American Board of Opticianry Exam and wish to work in dispensing optical shops.
- **Registered Contact Lens Dispenser**—For those who have passed the National Contact Lens Examiners exam and wish to work in dispensing optical shops.
- **Nonresident Ophthalmic Lens Dispenser**—For businesses outside of California that ship ophthalmic lenses to consumers within the state.

The following California schools prepare students for optician careers. Click the links below to learn more:

- **American Career College, Los Angeles**.
- **American Career College, Ontario**.
- **Cañada College**.
- **Chabot College and CSSO Statewide Optician and Optometric Apprenticeship Program**.
- **Los Angeles City College**.
- **Martinez Adult School**.
- **San Mateo Adult School**.
- **Sacramento City College**.
- **Southwestern College**.
- **San Diego City College (coming soon)**.

The Board also publishes an Optician Program Student Brochure, accessible **online**.

For any optician-related questions, please contact the Board at **opticianlicensing@dca.ca.gov**.

Apply for an Immunization Certificate

Licensed optometrists in California are authorized to administer certain immunizations and order laboratory tests if the following requirements are met:

- Hold a TPA certification.
- Complete an immunization training program endorsed by the CDC or Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education. Read more by clicking **here**.
- Be certified in basic life support.
- Complete an application for an immunization certificate on a board approved form and pay the fee of $50. Now on **BREEZE!**

Optometrists holding an immunization certificate can administer immunizations for the following viruses:

- Influenza, herpes zoster virus, pneumococcus, and SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19).

Apply now! If you have questions about the immunization certificate, contact the Board at **optometrylicensing@dca.ca.gov**.

Find Us on Social Media



The Board regularly posts on its social media platforms **Facebook**, **Instagram**, **LinkedIn**, **Threads**, and **X**, formerly Twitter.

Did you know the Board also has an email list? If social media is not your thing, but you still want to stay up to date with Board updates and happenings like optometry/optician regulations and legislation, public board meeting announcements/agendas, *The Spectacle*, subject matter expert workshops, and all other Board related updates, subscribe **online**.



Recent Disciplinary Actions Taken by the Board

For the most current list of citations issued and disciplinary actions, please visit **https://www.optometry.ca.gov/consumers/disciplinary.shtml**.

The Board provides information* regarding administrative disciplinary actions for immediate access and convenience of interested persons. You can also access the "**Online License Verification**" to verify if a licensed optometrist has had any disciplinary action taken against their license or to verify the current status of a license.

(*While the Board believes the information to be reliable, human or technical error remains a possibility, as does a possible delay in posting or updating information.)

CITE AND FINE

Adams, Paul (OPT 8154)—San Bernardino
On February 13, 2024, a $2,000 citation was issued to Dr. Paul Matthew Adams, O.D. (OPT 8154), for obstructing a patient from obtaining a prescribed device, refusal to comply with a request for clinical records, and failure to cooperate and participate with a Board investigation (BPC §§ 733(a), 3110(a), 3110(x), and CCR §§ 1582(a)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's license profile**.

Buu, Thi D. (OPT 11411)—Lake Elsinore
On February 29, 2024, a $650 citation was issued to Thi D. Buu. (OPT 11411) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2020-2022 renewal (BPC §§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(l). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile**.

Charm, Harry Joel (OPT 5511)—Anaheim
On February 13, 2024, a $1,000 citation was issued to Harry Joel Charm (OPT 5511) for failing to provide patient records as lawfully requested by the patient and failing to cooperate with a Board investigation. (BPC§§ 3110(a) and (x), 3059(e), CCR §1582(a), HSC §§ 123110(b)(1) and (b)(2). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile**.

Cherno, Mark
On January 9, 2024, a $1,000 citation was issued to Mark Cherno, for failure to maintain adequate and accurate records for three years after prescriptions were filled. (BPC §§2555.5(a), (n), and CCR §1399.231). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action**.

Devlyn Optical (RDO 71275)—Panorama City
On February 13, 2024, a $1,000 modified citation via Settlement was issued to Devlyn Optical (RDO 71275), for filling the ophthalmic prescriptions without a valid and current registration, and for advertising optometry services (BPC §§ 651(a), 2555.5(g), 2555.5(p), 2556.5, 2564.91(a), and 17500). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the registrant's registration profile**.

Hiura, Ronald Neal (OPT 6956)—San Francisco
On February 29, 2024, a $2,500 citation was issued to Ronald Neal Hiura (OPT 6956) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2020-2022 renewal and certifying under penalty of perjury on his license renewal that the CE requirements were met (BPC §§ 3110(a) and (j), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile**.

Continued on page 10

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Kenkel, Rebecca E. (OPT 14908)—Rolling Hills Estate
On February 29, 2024, a $650 citation was issued to Rebecca E. Kenkel (OPT 14908) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2020-2022 renewal (BPC§§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(l). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile**.

Kim, Jennifer Chin (OPT 13944)—Irvine
On February 29, 2024, a $1,300 citation was issued to Jennifer Chin Kim (OPT 13944) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2020-2022 renewal and certifying under penalty of perjury on her license renewal that the CE requirements were met (BPC §§ 3110(a) and (j), § 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(l). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile**.

Lamouchi, Manel (OPT 33354)—San Diego
On February 27, 2024, a $1,050 citation was issued to Manel Lamouchi (OPT 33354) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2020-2022 renewal (BPC §§ 3110(a),3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile**.

Moore, Alexandra Noelle Kanan (OPT 14778)—Clovis
On January 25, 2024, a $900 citation was issued to Alexandra Moore (OPT 14778) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2020-2022 renewal cycle and certifying under penalty of perjury on her license renewal that the CE requirements were met (BPC§§ 3110(a), (j), 3059(e), and CCR §1536(b). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile**.

Nguyen, Alain Hong (OPT 11500)—Bakersfield
On February 29, 2024, a $2,500 citation was issued to Alain Hong Nguyen (OPT 11500) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2020-2022 renewal and certifying under penalty of perjury on his license renewal that the CE requirements were met (BPC §§ 3110(a) and (j), BPC § 3059(e), and CCR §§ 1536(b) and (l). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile**.

Prince, Deborah Lynn (OPT 12242)—San Diego
On February 29, 2024, a $500 modified citation was issued to Deborah Lynn Prince (OPT 12242) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2020-2022 renewal cycle (BPC §§ 3110(a), 3059(e), and CCR § 1536(b). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile**.

Truong, Khoa Dang (OPT 11967)—San Diego
On January 23, 2024, a $2,000 citation was issued to Khoa Dang Truong (OPT 11967) for sexual harassment (BPC §§3110(a), and (m)(1)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's license profile**.

Turcios, Jr., Robert A. (OPT 7077)—Pleasant Hill
On February 27, 2024, a $1,300 citation was issued to Robert A. Turcios, Jr. (OPT 7077) for failing to meet the continuing optometric education (CE) requirements within the 2020-2022 renewal and certifying under penalty of perjury on his license renewal that the CE requirements were met (BPC §§ 3110(a) and (j), § 3059(e), and CCR §§ 1536(b) and (l). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the doctor's profile**.

REVOKED

Smith, Lesha (SLD 42013)—Sacramento
Effective March 7, 2024, the registration of Lesha Smith (SLD 42013), was revoked for a Criminal Conviction and Dangerous Use of Alcohol (BPC §§490(a), (b), (c), 2555.5(a), (k), and (l)). **Click here to obtain a copy of the action or to view the registrant's license profile**.

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