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To: Board Members **Date:** January 27, 2017

From: Joanne Stacy **Telephone:** (916) 575-7182
Policy Analyst

Subject: **Agenda Item 15 - Update on Rulemaking Calendar and Possible Action
Regarding Regulations Impacting the Practice of Optometry**

**A. Amendment to California Code of Regulations (CCR) § 1582 Unprofessional Conduct and
Amendment to CCR § 1516 Application Review and Criteria for Rehabilitation Following
Disapproval**

Background:

At its August 16, 2013 meeting, the Board voted to initiate a rulemaking to give the Board authority to compel an applicant to submit to a psychological or physical examination, and further define unprofessional conduct. The rulemaking action was printed in the California Regulatory Notice Register on October 18, 2013, and the 45-day comment period for the public started on October 18, 2013 and ended on December 2, 2013. The hearing was to be held December 2, 2013 in Sacramento at the Department of Consumer Affairs. However, due to the Executive Officer's absence for medical leave and the loss of the Board's Policy Analyst, the hearing was not held.

Due to time constraints, and at the recommendation of the Department of Consumer Affairs' Legal Division, the Board restarted the process concerning the rulemaking package pertaining to CCR Section 1516. On August 1, 2014, a Notice of Decision Not to Proceed was printed in the California Regulatory Notice Register in order to withdraw the Board's October 18, 2013 Notice. Staff resubmitted the unchanged rulemaking package to the Office of Administrative Law, which was printed in the California Regulatory Notice Register on August 8, 2014. A 45-day public comment period began on August 8, 2014 and concluded on September 22, 2014.

The rulemaking action was printed in the California Regulatory Notice Register December 12, 2014, and the 45-day comment period for the public started on December 12, 2014 and ended on January 26, 2015. The hearing was held on January 26, 2015. There were no comments or public speakers at the hearing. The rulemaking package was approved by the Department of Consumer Affairs and Agency.

On December 4, 2015, the Board received a Decision of Disapproval of Regulatory Action for the rulemaking package. In order to resolve all issues, Board counsel prepared an Addendum to the Initial Statement of Reasons and Modified Text which must be available

for a 15 calendar day public comment period. Any comments made regarding the addendum must be presented to the Board for consideration and be summarized and responded to in the Final Statement of Reasons.

The Board approved the Addendum and Modified Text and directed staff to send it out for the required 15-day comment period. In the absence of any adverse comments, direct staff to resubmit the rulemaking packet to OAL for approval, and request an extension from the appropriate agency if necessary.

Update: The rulemaking file was submitted to OAL and has been approved. The regulations will go into effect on April 1, 2017. The Order of Adoption Language is attached (Attachment 1).

Action Requested:

None

B. Amendment to CCR § 1523 Licensure Examination Requirements to Update Form 39A-1. Rev. 7-09, Form OLA-2, Rev. 11/07, and Form LBC-4, rev. 2/07

Background:

Currently, the Board utilizes two separate optometrist applications for those seeking licensure in California - a standard application and an out of state application. However, staff has found these applications caused confusion for applicants, resulting in applicants completing the wrong form. In addition, the license application needs to be updated to reflect current law requiring the Board to inquire if the individual applying for licensure is serving in, or has previously served in, the military. Further, staff found one of the most frequent questions from new grads relates to the length of initial license period.

After a thorough review of licensing laws and processes, Board staff recommends consolidating the two forms into one and updating the form to reflect current law. Board staff believes this will help clarify requirements, streamline the licensing process and decrease licensing cycle times. The form, OPT 1 Rev. 5-16 Application was approved by the Board and is attached (Attachment 2).

Update:

None

Action Requested:

None

C. Amendments to CCR § 1536 Continuing Optometric Education; Purpose and Requirements

Background:

In August 2013, the Board approved the Continuing Optometric Exemption/Extension Form for licensees requesting CE exemptions/extensions, pursuant to CCR § 1536. However, the form needs to be updated to accurately reflect current law and incorporated by reference.

Similarly, CCR § 1536 allows the Board to approve continuing education courses meeting the criteria set in CCR § 1536 (g). Currently, CE Providers seeking course approval submits a completed CE Course Approval form and the applicable fee. However, the form should be updated to reflect current law, approved by the Board, and incorporated by reference.

Based on the above, staff drafted the proposed amendments to CCR § 1536. The Board approve the revised forms and proposed amendments to CCR § 1536 and directed staff to prepare the proper rulemaking documents and set the matter for public hearing.

Staff has completed the packet and sent it to DCA for internal check and approval. The packet was due to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on September 25, 2016. The Order of Adoption is attached (Attachment 3).

Update:

The rulemaking file was submitted to OAL and became effective January 1, 2017.

Action Requested:

None

D. Amendment to CCR § 1514.1 Co-Location Reporting Requirement

Background:

During the November 20, 2015 Board meeting, the Board voted to adopt the proposed addition to CCR § 1514.1 and related form (Attachment 4). However, the Board also requested the Administration's assistance in amending BPC Section 2556.1 to expand the reporting requirement to registered dispensing opticians.

In response to the Board's request, the Administration included the requested amendment in the [SB 836](#), which is has passed and is now in effective.

Board staff amended the applicable form and regulatory language to reflect the changes in law made by [SB 836](#).

The Board reviewed, considered, and approved proposed amendments to the co-location from and delegated authority to the Executive Officer to initiate the rule making process and circulate the language for the required time period during the November 2016 meeting.

Update:

None

Action Requested:

None

E. Amendment to CCR § 1502 Delegation of Functions

Background:

CCR § 1536 allows the Board to approve continuing education courses meeting the criteria set in CCR § 1536 (g) and approve CE extension requests. In order for staff to approve these courses and CE extension requests, the Executive Officer (EO) should be given the delegated authority from the Board. Otherwise, the way the regulation is currently written, each course and request for CE extension would have to go before the Board for approval.

The proposed regulatory revision would also authorize the EO to accept default decisions and stipulated surrenders of a license. In May 2013, the Board voted against delegating authority to accept default decisions and stipulated surrenders based on the low volume of disciplinary matters it receives and the belief that delegating such authority prevented the Board from weighing in on disciplinary decisions. However, given the addition of several new license types and imperfect information regarding the potential volume of licensing and disciplinary actions, Board legal counsel has suggested that the Board may want to revisit this decision.

As a consumer protection agency, the Board is obligated to protect California consumers and patients. Please note that in cases of defaults, the respondent, applicant or cited person has two mechanisms available to get to a hearing on the merits. In cases of stipulated surrenders, the respondents, often times represented by attorneys, have agreed to no

longer practice in California. Here, the issue is timing, as any delay may allow respondents with admitted alcohol/drug addictions to continue treating patients and/or allow those who admitted to providing gross negligent, incompetent and/or substandard care to continue providing said care. The Board voted to approve the proposed amendments to CCR § 1502 (Attachment 5) and directed staff to prepare the proper rulemaking documents and set the matter for public hearing during the February 2016 meeting.

Update:

None

Action Requested:

None

F. Amendment to CCR § 1530.1 Qualifications of Foreign Graduates

Background:

In order for foreign graduates to obtain sponsorship to sit for the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) examination, applicants were required to submit the Application for International (Foreign) Graduate Sponsorship. In addition, applicants were required to submit fingerprints and have their education evaluated by a professional credential evaluation service. However, the application and additional requirements need to be updated to reflect current law, approved by the Board, and incorporated by reference. The Board approved the proposed form (Attachment 6) and amendments to CCR § 1530.1 (Attachment 7) and directed staff to prepare the proper rulemaking documents and set the matter for public hearing.

Update:

None

Action Requested:

None

G. Amendment to CCR § 1506 Certificates – Posting

Background:

During the November 21, 2014 meeting, Dr. David Turetsky, O.D. requested the Board consider a consumer notice requirement (signage) that would educate consumers about the different certifications an optometrist can obtain and what the designations after the license number mean.

Then Board President, Dr. Alejandro Arredondo, asked Dr. Turetsky, Ms. Donna Burke, and Ms. Cyd Brandvein to work on the consumer notice. Dr. Turetsky and Ms. Burke met with then Executive Officer, Mona Maggio, for the workgroup's initial meeting; Ms. Brandvein was unavailable to participate at that time.

The workgroup reviewed and revised the fact sheet "What Do the Letters after an Optometrist's License Mean?" for clarity and added a category for optometrists with "No Designation" for the optometrists who continue to practice with no certifications.

The workgroup recommended the Consumer Notice become part of Title 16, California Code of Regulations (CCR), §1506, Certificates – Posting. Requiring at each office there shall be posted in a conspicuous place, next to the optometrist's posted license, a notice which shall clearly state the certification designations and definitions for the purpose of consumer education.

After discussing the consumer notice during the April 23-24, 2015 Board Meeting, the Board voted (9-Aye; 1-No) to send the notice back to the workgroup, make it more “user-friendly,” and bring it back to a future Board meeting.

On July 23, 2015, the workgroup revised the Consumer Notice and developed proposed amendments to CCR §1506 for Board consideration. In addition, staff recommended amendments to clarify existing language. The Board voted to amend CCR §1506 (Attachment 8) and adopt the Consumer Notice (Attachment 9) and directed staff to prepare the necessary documents to initiate the rulemaking process.

Update:

None

Action Requested:

None

H. Amendment to CCR § 1523.5 Abandonment of Applications

Background:

Currently, the Board does not have the authority to abandon any license/permit applications. In order to issue licenses/registrations/permits, the Board must receive the necessary information, documentation, and/or other materials. Some applicants, however, may apply and never submit the required information even after frequent requests from staff for the missing items.

Consequently, the Board maintains application files that may never be issued and will always be reported as “pending” workload; these files are in a sort of perpetual holding pattern, which is neither efficient nor productive. Staff must store and monitor these files and keep them open even though the application may have been sitting dormant for years. The Board appears to be one of the few DCA entities who do not have this authority.

To rectify this, Board legal counsel has provided proposed language for the addition of CCR § 1523.5 (Attachment 10). The Board approved the proposed addition to CCR § 1523.1 during the February 19, 2016 meeting and directed the staff to prepare the proper rulemaking documents and set the matter for public hearing.

Update:

None

Action Requested:

None

I. Proposed Addition to CCR § 1503 Relating To Accreditation of Schools and Colleges of Optometry

Background:

Business and Professions Code (BPC) § 3023 mandates the Board “accredit schools, colleges, and universities in or out of this state providing optometric education, that it finds giving a sufficient program of study for the preparation of optometrist.”

BPC § 3025.2 allows the Board, through regulation, to “... recognize, accept, or adopt the advice, recommendation, accreditation or approval of a nationally recognized accrediting agency or organization.” However, the Board does not have any such supporting regulation.

The Board only accepts schools and colleges of optometry who have received accreditation through the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE). As stated on their

website, ACOE “is the only accrediting body for professional optometric degree (O.D.) programs, optometric residency programs and optometric technician programs in the United States and Canada.

Both the U.S. Department of Education and the Council on Higher Education Accreditation recognize the ACOE as a reliable authority concerning the quality of education of the programs the Council accredits. ACOE accreditation means the programs that have attained accredited status: “Meet the Council’s standards of educational effectiveness; and show a demonstrated commitment to quality assessment and improvement.”

The Board approve the proposed language (Attachment 11) during the August 26, 2016 Board meeting and delegated authority to the Executive Officer to initiate the rule making process and circulate the language for the required time period.

Update:

None

Action Requested:

None

Attachments:

1. Unprofessional Conduct – CCR §1516 and 1582 Order of Adoption
2. OPT 1 Rev. 5-16 Application
3. Continuing Education – CCR § 1536 Order of Adoption
4. Optometrist Registered Dispensing Optician Co-Location Form
5. Delegations of Functions Language CCR Section 1502
6. Foreign Grads Proposed Foreign Sponsorship Application FG-01. Rev 2.16
7. Foreign Grads Language CCR Section 1530.1
8. CCR §1506, Certificates – Posting Language
9. CCR Section 1506 Cert Posting – Notice
10. Abandonment of Applications Language
11. School Accreditation CCR Section 1503

BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

ORDER OF ADOPTION

(1) Amend Section 1516 in Division 15 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations to read as follows:

1516. Application Review and Criteria for Rehabilitation.

(a) In addition to any other requirements for licensure, whenever it reasonably appears that an applicant may be unable to practice optometry safely because his or her ability to practice may be impaired due to mental or physical illness affecting competency, the Board may require the applicant to be examined by one or more physicians and surgeons or psychologists designated by the Board. The applicant shall pay the full cost of the examination. An applicant's failure to comply with the requirement shall render his or her application incomplete. If after receiving the report of the evaluation the Board determines that the applicant is unable to safely practice, the Board may deny the application. The report of the evaluation shall be made available to the applicant.

~~(a)(b)~~ When considering the denial of a ~~certificate of registration license~~ under Section 480 of the Code, the Board, in evaluating the rehabilitation of the applicant and his/ or her present eligibility for a ~~certificate of registration license~~, will consider the following criteria:

(1) The nature and severity of the act(s) or crime(s) under consideration as grounds for denial.

(2) Evidence of any act(s) committed subsequent to the act(s) or crime(s) under consideration as grounds for denial which also could be considered as grounds for denial under Section 480 of the Code.

(3) The time that has elapsed since commission of the act(s) or crime(s) referred to in subdivision (1) or (2).

(4) The extent to which the applicant has complied with any terms of parole, probation, restitution, or any other sanctions lawfully imposed against the applicant.

(5) Evidence, if any, of rehabilitation submitted by the applicant.

~~(b)(c)~~ When considering the suspension or revocation of a ~~certificate of registration license~~ on the grounds that the ~~registrant licensee~~ has been convicted of a crime, the Board, in evaluating the rehabilitation of such person and his/ or her present eligibility for a license, will consider the following criteria:

(1) Nature and severity of the act(s) or offense(s).

(2) Total criminal record.

(3) The time that has elapsed since commission of the act(s) or offense(s).

(4) Whether the licensee has complied with any terms of parole, probation, restitution or any other sanctions lawfully imposed against the licensee.

(5) If applicable, evidence of expungement proceedings pursuant to Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code.

(6) Evidence, if any, of rehabilitation submitted by the licensee.

~~(e)~~(d) When considering a petition for reinstatement of a ~~certificate of registration~~ license under Section 11522 of the Government Code, the Board shall evaluate evidence of rehabilitation submitted by the petitioner, considering those criteria of rehabilitation specified in subsection ~~(b)-(c)~~.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 3023, ~~3023.1 and~~ 3025, 3025.1, 3056 and 3057, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 475, 480, 481, ~~and~~ 482, 3056 and 3057, Business and Professions Code; and Section 11522, Government Code.

(2) Adopt Section 1582 in Division 15 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations to read as follows:

1582. Unprofessional Conduct.

In addition to the conduct described in Section 3110 of the Code, "unprofessional conduct" also includes, but is not limited to the following:

(a) Failure to cooperate and participate in any Board investigation pending against the licensee. This includes, but is not limited to, failure to respond to a Board request for information or evidence within 15 days of receipt of the request or within the time specified in the request, whichever is later, unless the licensee is unable to provide the information within this time period for good cause. This subsection shall not be construed to deprive a licensee of any privilege guaranteed by the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, or any other constitutional or statutory privileges. This subsection shall not be construed to require a licensee to cooperate with a request that would require the licensee to waive any constitutional or statutory privilege or to comply with a request for information or other matters within an unreasonable period of time in light of the time constraints of the licensee's practice. Any exercise by a licensee of any constitutional or statutory privilege shall not be used against the licensee in a regulatory or disciplinary proceeding against the licensee.

(b) Failure to report to the Board, within 30 days, any of the following:

(1) The bringing of an indictment or information charging a felony against the licensee.

(2) The conviction of the licensee, including any verdict of guilty, or pleas of guilty or no contest, of any felony or misdemeanor.

(3) Any disciplinary action taken by another licensing entity or authority of this state or of another state or an agency of the federal government or the United States military that is related to the practice of optometry.

(c) Failure or refusal to comply with a court order, issued in the enforcement of a subpoena, mandating the release of records to the Board.

Note: Authority cited: Section 3025, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 480, 3010.1, 3010.5, 3024, 3025, 3090 and 3110, Business and Professions Code.

OPTOMETRIST LICENSE APPLICATION

****Shorten the processing time – Apply online at www.BreEZe.ca.gov****

Fee Schedule	
<i>The application fee is a non-refundable processing fee. Make checks payable to the California State Board of Optometry.</i>	
License Application	\$275
TPA Certification	\$25
TPL Certification	\$25
TPG Certification	\$35

Minimum Requirements:

- Applicable Fee(s)
- Completed Optometrist Application
- Transcripts from College/School of Optometry (*Directly from College/School*)
- Fingerprints:
 - Live Scan Form (CA Only), *or*
 - Two (2) Fingerprint Cards (*\$49 DOJ/FBI Fee*)

California resident applicants must complete the Live Scan fingerprint process. A copy of the completed *Request for Live Scan Service* form must be submitted with your application. Out of state residents may submit two completed fingerprint cards or visit a California Live Scan facility. *Fingerprint cards will be mailed to you once the Board receives your application and appropriate processing fees.* All personal data must be completed on the fingerprint cards. An optometrist license will not be issued until fingerprint results have been received from the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Type or Print Legibly		PERSONAL INFORMATION			
1. Legal Name	Last	First	Middle		
2. Other Names/Aliases Used					
3. Social Security Number/Individual Taxpayer Identification Number			4. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)		
5. Address of Record (AOR)	Your AOR is public information. Your AOR may be a Post Office (PO) box number or alternate address, instead of your home address.				
Street	City	State	Zip Code	Country	
6. Physical Mailing Address	If you chose a PO Box or alternate address above, please provide a physical address for the Board's internal administrative use and not for public disclosure. A PO box may not be listed in this section.				
Street	City	State	Zip Code	Country	
7. Telephone Numbers	Home #	Work #		Cell #	
8. E-Mail Address					
9. Have you ever applied for a California Optometrist License?				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
10. Have you previously held a California Optometrists License? If yes, please provide the license number: _____ Expired:				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
11. Are you currently serving in, or have previously served in, the military? If applicable, date honorably discharged:				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
12. Is your spouse currently serving in, or have previously served in, the military? If applicable, date honorably discharged:				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

EXAMINATIONS

13. List all of the examinations you have taken: **NBEO** (Parts I, II, and/or III *including TMOD*) and/or **CLRE**

Examination	Date (mm/yyyy)	Result (Pass/Fail)

EDUCATION

14. Optometry School of Graduation	Location	Degree Issue Date
	City State	

OPTOMETRIST LICENSE

15. Have you ever held, or do you currently hold an optometrist license in any U.S. State or U.S. territory? If yes, list license information below and attach proof of meeting the minimum TPA requirements set forth in BPC § [3041.3](#) and continuing education requirements set forth in BPC § [3059](#) for the current and preceding year.

(List others on a separate piece of paper if needed.)

Yes No

REQUIRED: A LETTER OF GOOD STANDING MUST BE SENT DIRECTLY FROM EACH STATE BOARD TO THE CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

State	License Number	Issue Date	Expiration Date

DEA CERTIFICATION

16. Are you currently registered with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)? Yes No

DEA Number	State of Issue	Expiration Date (mm/yyyy)

DISCIPLINARY HISTORY

These questions refer to discipline by any Military or Public Health Service, State Board, or other Governmental Agency of any U.S. state or territory. For each “yes” response, you must submit a descriptive explanation of the circumstances surrounding the discipline and copies of any documentation (e.g., Accusation, Disciplinary Order) you may have.

17. Have you ever been denied an optometrist or any other healing arts license? Yes No

18. Have you ever had an optometrist or any other healing arts license suspended, revoked, or placed on probation? Yes No

19. Have you ever surrendered an optometrist or any other healing arts license? Yes No

CRIMINAL RECORD HISTORY

Applicants who answer “NO” to the questions below, but have a previous conviction or plea, may have their application denied for knowingly falsifying the application. If in doubt as to whether a conviction should be disclosed, it is best to disclose the conviction on the application.

For each conviction disclosed, you must submit certified copies of the arresting agency report, certified copies of the court documents, including a plea form and court docket, and a signed and dated descriptive explanation of the circumstances surrounding the conviction of disciplinary action (i.e., dates and location of the incident and all circumstances surrounding the incident). If the documents were purged by the arresting agency and/or court, a letter of explanation from these agencies is required. In addition, you may submit evidence of rehabilitation.

<p>20. Have you ever been convicted of, or pled guilty or nolo contendere to ANY offense in the United States or its territories?</p> <p><i>This includes every citation, infraction, misdemeanor and/or felony, including traffic violations. Convictions that were adjudicated in the juvenile court and/or traffic infractions under \$300 that did not involve alcohol, drugs, or controlled substances should NOT be disclosed. Convictions that were later dismissed, expunged from the record of the court, or set aside pursuant to California Penal Code § 1203.4 or equivalent non-California law MUST be disclosed.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>21. Is any criminal action pending against you, or are you currently awaiting judgement and sentencing following entry of a plea or jury verdict?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>22. Are you a registered sex offender?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

PHOTOGRAPH

Photograph

Attach 2” X 2” Colored Photo Here

Photos must be recent and must be of your head and shoulder areas only.

Altered Photographs are NOT accepted.

DELAYED LICENSE ISSUANCE REQUEST

California Code of Regulations § 1525 specifies that an optometrist license expires at midnight on the last day of the licensee’s birth month following its original issuance and thereafter at midnight on the last day of your birth month every two years if not renewed. If you are licensed in your birth month, your initial license will expire the following year. If you are licensed in a month other than your birth month, the term of your *initial license* will be less than 12-months.

Please indicate your preference by checking one of the options below:

<p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>I would like to wait to be licensed until my birth month.</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>I would like to be licensed as soon as my application is processed. I understand and acknowledge that my <i>initial license</i> will be valid for less than 12-months.</p>

DECLARATION

23. I declare, under penalty of perjury under the laws of California, that the answers and information submitted on this form and any accompanying attachments are true and correct. I further declare that my signature on this application authorizes the Data Bank (formerly known as the National Practitioner Data Bank), the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency, and any other law enforcement agency or jurisdictional entity to release any and all information required by the California State Board of Optometry.

I UNDERSTAND THAT ANY OMISSION, FALSIFICATION, OR MISREPRESENTATION OF ANY ITEM RESPONSE ON THIS APPLICATION OR ANY ATTACHMENT HERETO IS A SUFFICIENT BASIS FOR DENYING OR REVOKING A LICENSE.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

IMPORTANT CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Any licensee who renews an active license for the first time is exempt from continuing education (CE) requirements if he or she graduated from an accredited school or college of optometry less than one year from the date of initial licensure.

If you graduated more than one year from the date of initial licensure, you are required to meet ALL minimum CE requirements, pursuant to California Code of Regulations § [1536](#). Failure to meet all CE requirements will result in your license not being renewed. It is your responsibility to know all laws governing the practice of optometry.

All terms of information requested are mandatory. Your Social Security Number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number is required pursuant to Business and Professions Code § 30. Failure to provide any of the requested information will result in the application being rejected as incomplete. The information provided will be used to determine eligibility to take the examinations for an optometrist license and receive a California Optometrist License. The official responsible for the maintenance of this information is the Executive Officer. The information may be transferred to other government agencies, and/or law enforcement agencies. Each individual has the right to review the files or records maintained on them by the agency, unless the records are identified as exempt from access as provided in Section 1798.40 et seq. of the Civil Code.

BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

ORDER OF ADOPTION

Amend Section 1536 of Division 15 Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations to read as follows:

§ 1536. Continuing Optometric Education; Purpose and Requirements.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in Section 1536(b), each licensee shall complete 40 hours of formal continuing optometric education course work within the two years immediately preceding the license expiration date. Such course work shall be subject to Board approval. Up to eight hours of course work may be in the area of patient care management or ethics in the practice of optometry. Business management courses are not accepted by the Board.

(b) An optometrist certified to use therapeutic pharmaceutical agents pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 3041.3 shall complete a total of 50 hours of continuing optometric education every two years in order to renew his or her license. Thirty-five of the required 50 hours of continuing optometric education shall be on the diagnosis, treatment and management of ocular disease and consistent with Business and Professions Code section 3059, subdivision (e).

(c) Up to 20 hours of required biennial course work may be accomplished by using any or all of the following alternative methods:

(1) Documented and accredited self study through correspondence or an electronic medium.

(2) Teaching of continuing optometric education courses if attendance at such course would also qualify for such credit, providing none are duplicate courses within the two-year period.

(3) Writing articles that have been published in optometric journals, magazines or newspapers, pertaining to the practice of optometry (or in other scientific, learned, refereed journals on topics pertinent to optometry), providing no articles are duplicates. One hour of credit will be granted for each full page of printing or the equivalent thereof.

(4) A full day's in person attendance at a California State Board of Optometry Board meeting as verified by the Board. Every two hours of open session equates to one hour of credit, up to a maximum of four credit hours. ~~Up to two credit hours shall be granted for a full day.~~

(5) Completion of a course to receive certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) from the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, or other association approved by the Board. Up to four credit hours shall be granted for this course.

(6) Any continuing education course approved for category 1 of the American Medical Association or category 1A of the American Osteopathic Association Continued Medical Education credits that contributes to the advancement of professional skill and knowledge in the practice of optometry.

(7) Participation as a subject matter expert in the creation of the Board's California Laws and Regulation Examination. Subject matter experts will receive one hour of continuing education credit for each hour attending a Board sponsored workshop, not to exceed eight credits per renewal cycle.

(d) A credit hour is defined as one classroom hour, usually a 50-minute period, but no less than that.

(e) Continuing optometric education programs which are approved as meeting the required standards of the Board include the following:

(1) Continuing optometric education courses officially sponsored or recognized by any accredited school or college of optometry.

(2) Continuing optometric education courses provided by any national or state affiliate of the American Optometric Association, the American Academy of Optometry, or the Optometric Extension Program.

(3) Continuing optometric education courses approved by the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry committee known as COPE (Council on Optometric Practitioner Education).

(f) Other continuing optometric education courses approved by the Board as meeting the criteria set forth in paragraph (g) below, after submission of the Continuing Education Course Approval Application (Form CE-01, Rev. 5/16), hereby incorporated by reference, a course, schedule, topical outline of subject matter, and curriculum vitae of all instructors or lecturers involved, to the Board not less than 45 days prior to the date of the program. The Board may, upon application of any licensee and for good cause shown, waive the requirement for submission of advance information and request for prior approval. Nothing herein shall permit the Board to approve a continuing optometric education course which has not complied with the criteria set forth in paragraph (g) below.

(g) The criteria for judging and approving continuing education courses by the Board for continuing optometric education credit will be determined on the following basis:

(1) Whether the program is likely to contribute to the advancement of professional skills and knowledge in the practice of optometry.

(2) Whether the instructors, lecturers, and others participating in the presentation are recognized by the Board as being qualified in their field.

(3) Whether the proposed course is open to all optometrists licensed in this State.

(4) Whether the provider of any mandatory continuing optometric education course agrees to maintain and furnish to the Board and/or attending licensee such records of course content and attendance as the Board requires, for a period of at least three years from the date of course presentation.

(h) Proof of continuing optometric education course attendance shall be provided in a form and manner specified in writing by the Board and distributed to all licensed optometrists in this State. Certification of continuing optometric education course attendance shall be submitted by the licensee to the Board upon request, and shall contain the following minimal information:

(1) Name of the sponsoring organization.

(2) Name, signature, practice address, and license number of the attending licensee.

(3) Subject or title of the course.

(4) Number of continuing optometric education hours provided for attending the course.

(5) Date the course was provided.

(6) Location where the course was provided.

(7) Name(s) and signature(s) of the course instructor(s).

(8) Such other evidence of course content or attendance as the Board may deem necessary. Use of a certificate of course completion provided by the Board is recommended for any continuing optometric education course approved by the Board pursuant to the above. Such forms will be furnished by the Board upon request.

The Board will also recognize and utilize the Association of Regulatory Boards in Optometry's online Optometric Education (OE) Tracker system as proof of continuing education course attendance.

(i) The following licensees shall be exempt from the requirements of this section:

(1) Any licensee serving in the regular armed forces of the United States during any part of the two years immediately preceding the license expiration date.

~~(2) Those licensees as the Board, in its discretion, determines were unable to complete sufficient hours of continuing optometric education courses due to illness, incapacity, or other unavoidable circumstances. An extension may be granted if the Board, in its discretion, determines that good cause exists for the licensee's failure to complete the requisite hours of continuing optometric education.~~

~~(3)~~(2) Any licensee who is renewing an active license for the first time, if he or she graduated from an accredited school or college of optometry less than one year from the date of initial licensure.

(3) Those licensees as the Board, in its discretion, determines were unable to complete sufficient hours of continuing optometric education courses due to illness, incapacity, or other unavoidable circumstances. An extension may be granted if the Board, in its discretion, determines that good cause exists for the licensee's failure to complete the requisite hours of continuing optometric education.

(j) The Board, in its discretion, may exempt from the continuing optometric education requirements of this section licensees who for health reasons or other good cause cannot meet these requirements. Licensees requesting an exemption shall complete a Continuing Education Exemption Request (Form CE-E, Rev 2/2016) and submit it, along with all required supporting information, to the Board for its consideration at least thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of the license.

(1) 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 necessary continuing optometric education.

(2) A licensee whose requests for an exemption is denied and an extension is not granted shall otherwise comply with the provision of this section.

(j)(k) The Board may conduct an audit of any licensee's attendance of a continuing optometric education course as a means of verifying compliance with this section.

(l) Licensees that are glaucoma certified pursuant to BPC section 1571 shall be required to complete 10 hours of glaucoma specific optometric continuing education every license renewal period. These 10 hours shall be part of the required 35 hours on the diagnosis, treatment and management of ocular disease.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 3059, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 3059, Business and Professions Code.

BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

ORDER OF ADOPTION

Amend Section 1571 of Division 15 Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations to read as follows:

§ 1571. REQUIREMENTS FOR GLAUCOMA CERTIFICATION.

(a) Only optometrists meeting the requirements of this Article may apply for certification for the treatment of glaucoma as described in subdivision (j) of Section 3041, in patients over 18 years of age. The optometrist shall:

- (1) Hold an active license as an optometrist in California in good standing with the State Board of Optometry (Board);
- (2) Be certified to use Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agents (TPA) pursuant to Section 3041.3;
- (3) Complete a didactic course of no less than 24 hours in the diagnosis, pharmacological and other treatment and management of glaucoma. The following topics may be covered in the course:
 - (A) Anatomy and physiology of glaucoma
 - (B) Classification of glaucoma
 - (C) Pharmacology in glaucoma therapy
 - (D) Diagnosis of glaucoma including risk factors analysis
 - (E) Medical and surgical treatment
 - (F) Participant performance assessment; and

(4) Complete a Case Management Requirement where a minimum of 25 individual patients are each prospectively treated for a minimum of 12 consecutive months. For purposes of this section, "treat" means properly evaluating the patient, performing all necessary tests, diagnosing the patient, recognizing the type of glaucoma within a licensee's scope of practice, creating a treatment plan with proposed medications and target pressures, ongoing monitoring and reevaluation of the patient's condition, and making timely referrals to an ophthalmologist when appropriate. The following options may be chosen in any combination to fulfill this requirement:

(A) Case Management Course: Completion of a 16-hour case management course developed cooperatively by the accredited California schools and colleges of optometry and approved by the Board, with at least 15 cases of moderate to advanced complexity. The course may be conducted live, over the Internet, or by use of telemedicine. One hour of the program will be used for a final competency examination. Although the Case Management Course does not involve treatment of patients, completion of the 16-hour Case Management Course is equivalent to prospectively treating 15 individual patients for 12 consecutive months. Therefore, completion of the 16-hour Case Management Course will count as a 15-patient credit towards the Case Management Requirement. The full course must be completed to receive the 15-patient credit. The course must include the following topics/conditions:

1. Presentation of conditions/cases that licensees may treat:
 - a. All primary open-angle glaucoma;
 - b. Exfoliation and pigmentary glaucoma.

2. Presentation of conditions/cases that licensees may not treat, but must recognize and refer to the appropriate physician and/or surgeon such as:
 - a. Pseudoglaucoma with vascular, malignant, or compressive etiologies;
 - b. Secondary glaucoma;
 - c. Traumatic glaucoma;

- d. Infective or inflammatory glaucoma;
- e. Appropriate evaluation and analysis for medical or surgical consultation;
- f. In an emergency, if possible, stabilization of acute attack of angle closure and immediate referral of the patient.

(B) Grand Rounds Program: Completion of a 16-hour grand rounds program developed cooperatively by the accredited California schools and colleges of optometry and approved by the Board, wherein participants will evaluate and create a management plan for live patients. Completion of the 16-hour Grand Rounds Program is equivalent to prospectively treating 15 individual patients for 12 consecutive months. Therefore, the 16-hour Grand Rounds Program will count as a 15-patient credit towards the Case Management Requirement. The full program must be completed to receive the 15-patient credit. Patients must be evaluated in person. The program must include the following:

1. Presentation of various patient types such as: glaucoma suspects; narrow angle, primary open angle glaucoma (early, moderate, late); and secondary open angle glaucoma such as pigment dispersion and pseudoexfoliation. Patient data, including but not limited to, visual acuities, intra-ocular pressures, visual fields, imaging, and pachymetry, will be available on-site and presented upon request;
2. Examination of patients, evaluation of data and test results, and commitment to a tentative diagnosis, treatment, and management plan;
3. Participation in group discussion of the cases with instructor feedback;
4. Attendance of follow-up meetings (within the 16-hour program requirement) where the same or different patients will be reviewed via serial data, including but not limited to visual fields and imaging photos.

(C) Preceptorship Program: Completion of a preceptorship program where each patient must be initially evaluated by the licensee and co-managed with a preceptor. Each patient must be prospectively treated for a minimum of 12 consecutive months. A preceptor for purposes of this section is defined as:

1. A California licensed, Board certified ophthalmologist in good standing; or
2. A California licensed optometrist in good standing, who has been glaucoma certified for two or more years.

Preceptors shall confirm the diagnosis and treatment plan, and then approve the therapeutic goals and management plan for each patient. Consultation with the preceptor must occur at appropriate clinical intervals or when the therapeutic goals are not achieved. Clinical data will be exchanged at appropriate intervals determined by the preceptor and the licensee.

Telemedicine and electronic exchange of information may be used as agreed upon by the preceptor and the licensee. Each patient that is seen by the optometrist in the program will count as a 1-patient credit towards the Case Management Requirement.

~~(b) Licensees that are glaucoma certified pursuant to this Section shall be required to complete 10 hours of glaucoma specific optometric continuing education every license renewal period. These 10 hours shall be part of the required 35 hours on the diagnosis, treatment and management of ocular disease.~~

~~(e)~~ Licensees who completed their education from an accredited school or college of optometry on or after May 1, 2008, are exempt from the didactic course and case management requirements of this Section, provided they submit proof of graduation from that institution to the Board.

~~(d)~~ Licensees who graduated from an accredited school or college of optometry prior to May 1, 2000, and who have not completed a didactic course of no less than 24 hours will be required to take the 24-hour course indicated in subsection (a). Licensees who graduated

from an accredited school or college of optometry after May 1, 2000, are exempt from the didactic course requirement of this Section.

(~~e~~d) Licensees who graduated from an accredited school or college of optometry prior to May 1, 2008, and who have taken a didactic course of no less than 24 hours, but not completed the case management requirement under SB 929 [Stats. 2000, ch. 676, § 3], will be required to complete the Case Management Requirement indicated in subsection (a).

(~~f~~e) Licensees who started the process for certification to treat glaucoma under SB 929 [Stats. 2000, ch. 676, § 3] but will not complete the requirements by December 31, 2009, may apply all patients who have been co-managed prospectively for at least 12 consecutive months towards the Case Management Requirement indicated in subsection (a).

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 3025, 3041, ~~3041.10~~ and 3059, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 3041 and 3041.3, Business and Professions Code.



STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
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Optometrist/Registered Dispensing Optician Co-Location Form

All licensed optometrists and registered dispensing opticians (RDO) who are in a co-located setting shall report the business relationship to the Board within 30 days of entering into said business relationship (Business and Professions Code §2556.1, California Code of Regulations §1514.1).

Optometrist Information

License Number: _____ Business Name: _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address of Record

Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

RDO Information

Registration Number: _____ Business Name: _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address of Record

Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Lease Information

Execution Date: _____ Duration and/or Termination Date: _____

I certify, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the forgoing information is true and correct.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Proposed Amendment to CCR § 1502 Delegation of Certain Functions

16 CCR § 1502
§ 1502. Delegation of Certain Functions.

- (a) The power and discretion conferred by law upon the Board to receive and file accusations; issue notices of hearing, statements to respondent and statements of issues; receive and file notices of defense; determine the time and place of hearings under Section 11508 of the Government Code; issue subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum; set and calendar cases for hearing; accept default decisions and approve settlement agreements for the surrender or interim suspension of a license, and perform other functions necessary to the business-like dispatch of the business of the Board in connection with proceedings under the provisions of Sections 11500 through 11528 of the Government Code, prior to the hearing of such proceedings; and the certification and delivery or mailing of copies of decisions under Section 11518 of said code are hereby delegated to and conferred upon the executive officer.
- (b) The authority of the Board to approve continuing education courses and course providers and grant extensions and exemptions from the continuing education requirements in section 1536 is hereby delegated to the executive officer or his or her designee.

Note: Authority cited: Section 3025, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 3027, Business and Professions Code.



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FOREIGN GRADUATE SPONSORSHIP APPLICATION

Requirements:

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code (BPC) § [3057.5](#), the Board will authorize (sponsor) a graduate of a foreign university who meets all of the following requirements to take the examinations for an optometrist license:

- Over 18 years of age;
- Not subject to denial of a license under BPC § [480](#).
- Holds a degree as a doctor of optometry issued by a university located outside of the United States.

Applicants who meet the above requirements will be authorized to take the examination upon furnishing satisfactory evidence that the course of instruction completed is reasonably equivalent, as determined by the Board, to the course of instruction given by a school accredited by the Board; provided, however, that an applicant who is unable to furnish satisfactory evidence of equivalency may take those courses or subjects, in an accredited school or in another program of instruction acceptable to the Board, which would remedy areas of deficiency (California Code of Regulations § [1530.1](#)).

In order to determine equivalency, an evaluation of the applicant’s professional optometric education from a professional credential evaluation service must be sent directly to the Board from the evaluation service.

Please type or print clearly.

Social Security Number or Individual Identification Number □□□/□□/□□□□	Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY) □□/□□/□□□□
Name (First, Middle, Last)	
Address (Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)	
Telephone Number	Email Address:
Education (Degree Type) (University Name)	Date Degree Obtained (MM/DD/YYYY) □□/□□/□□□□
School Location (City) (State) (Country)	
HAVE YOU EVER BEEN DENIED A PROFESSIONAL LICENSE, HAD A PROFESSIONAL LICENSE PRIVILEGE SUSPENDED, REVOKED, OR OTHERWISE DISCIPLINED, OR HAVE YOU EVER VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED ANY SUCH LICENSE IN CALIFORNIA OR ANY OTHER STATE OR TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES, OR BY ANY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
If YES, attach your detailed explanation of the circumstance surrounding the arrest/conviction or disciplinary proceedings taken by another state or governmental agency and attach any documentation (i.e., arrest report/court documents/accusations) that you may have.	
THIS IS NOT AN APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE. ONLY APPLICANTS MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER BPC §§ 3046, 3056, OR 3057 ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A LICENSE TO PRACTICE OPTOMETRY IN CALIFORNIA.	

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN CONVICTED OF, PLED GUILTY TO, OR PLED NOLO CONTENDERE TO ANY MISDEMEANOR OR FELONY?

YES NO

If YES, attach your explanation and related documents as described in the REPORTING PRIOR CONVICTION(S) section of the instructions. You must disclose all convictions even if previously reported to the Board. However, it is not necessary for you to re-submit documentation previously on file; you may simply provide a written statement indicating that you believe the information is already on file. (Convictions dismissed under Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code must be disclosed. You need not include offenses prior to your 18th birthday. You may omit traffic infractions under \$300 that did not involve alcohol, dangerous drugs, or controlled substances.)

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that all the information submitted on this form and on any accompanying attachments submitted is true and correct.

Signature of Applicant

Date

ATTACH ONE 2 X 2 COLOR PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN OF YOU WITHIN THE LAST 60 DAYS.

ATTACH COLOR PHOTO
HERE

PHOTO IS TO BE HEAD
AND SHOULDERS ONLY
And of
PASSPORT QUALITY

All terms of information requested are mandatory. Failure to provide any of the requested information will result in the application being rejected as incomplete. The information provided will be used to determine qualification to take the examinations for an optometrist license. The official responsible for the maintenance of this information is the Executive Officer. The information may be transferred to other interagency or intergovernmental agency, and/or enforcement agencies. Each individual has the right to review the files or records maintained on them by the agency, unless the records are identified as exempt from access as provided in Section 1798.40 et seq. of the Information Practices Act of the Civil Code.

THIS IS NOT AN APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE. ONLY APPLICANTS MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER BPC §§ [3046](#), [3056](#), OR [3057](#) ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A LICENSE TO PRACTICE OPTOMETRY IN CALIFORNIA.

Proposed Amendment to CCR § 1530.1 Qualifications of Foreign Graduates to Update Foreign Sponsorship Application and Incorporate Form by Reference

16 CCR § 1530.1

§ 1530.1. Qualifications of Foreign Graduates.

- (a) An individual who meets the requirements of section 3057.5 of the Code and seeks authorization (sponsorship) from the Board to take the national optometric licensing examination shall complete the Foreign Graduate Examination Sponsorship application (Form FG-01, Rev. 2/16), hereby incorporated by reference, and filed with the Board at its Sacramento office.
- (b) The applicant shall supply the Board with a full set of fingerprints for the purpose of conducting a criminal history record check and to undergo a state and federal criminal offender record information search conducted through the Department of Justice.
- (c) Applicants who meet the requirements of Section 3057.5 of the Code shall be admitted to the examination upon furnishing satisfactory evidence that the course of instruction completed is reasonably equivalent, as determined by the Board, to the course of instruction given by a school accredited by the Board; provided, however, that an applicant who is unable to furnish satisfactory evidence of equivalency may take those courses or subjects, in an accredited school or in another program of instruction acceptable to the Board, which would remedy areas of deficiency.
- (1) For the purposes of determining equivalency, an applicant shall cause to have directly submitted to the Board an evaluation of his or her resident course of professional optometric instruction, as performed by a professional credential evaluation service.

Note: Authority cited: Sections ~~3023.4~~, and 3025, 3025.1, and 3025.2, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 3023.1, 3025, 3047, 3050 and 3057.5, Business and Professions Code.

Committee recommended insertion is underlined in bold green.

Staff's recommended insertions are underlined in blue and deletions in ~~red strikethrough~~.

§1506. LICENSES AND CONSUMER NOTICE ~~CERTIFICATES~~ — POSTING

(a) A current license (previously referred to as a certificate of registration)~~certificate of registration, i.e., original wall certificate, is an original certificate of registration and license~~ is a license to practice optometry in the State of California granted by the Board to a natural person who has qualified for the same pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 7 of Division 2 of the Code, ~~and~~ it may not be assigned or transferred to another person but shall; notwithstanding whether it is a replaced ~~by a certification of the issuance of a certificate of registration~~license, i.e., duplicate wall certificate, as provided by subdivision (b) of this section; remain valid and in force unless it is revoked or suspended and not reinstated or it is expired and not renewed or restored.

(b) A replacement license may be issued by the Board ~~certification of the issuance of a certificate of registration is a certification by the Board that the person named thereon to whom it is conveyed is the holder of the certificate of registration designated thereon and shall be issued to such person as prima facie evidence that such person is the holder of such certificate of registration designated thereon and to replace the same or a previous certification of the issuance of a certificate of registration issued to the same person, provided that~~ there is payment of the fee prescribed by Section 3152(h) of the code for the issuance of a license and one of the following applies:

(1) There is furnished proof satisfactory to the Board of a change in name authorized by law of such person or of the loss of, destruction of or severe damage to such ~~certificate of registration~~license or previous certification of the issuance of such ~~certificate of registration~~license.

(2) Such ~~certificate of registration~~license or previous certification of the issuance of such ~~certificate of registration~~license is, unless it is lost or destroyed, surrendered to the Board.

~~(3) There is payment of the fee prescribed by Section 3152(h) of the code for the issuance of a certification of registration.~~

(c) The principal place of practice of an optometrist shall be deemed by the Board to be that office, other than ~~his/her~~the optometrist branch office or offices, ~~wherein he/she owns, singly or jointly with any others, the practice of optometry, provided however~~unless:

(1) ~~Where t~~he optometrist does not own a practice, singly or jointly with any others, but practices optometry in a single office as an employee, that office shall be ~~his/her~~the optometrist's principal place of practice.

(2) ~~Where t~~he optometrist does not own a practice, singly or jointly with any others, but practices optometry in two or more offices as an employee, ~~he/she~~the optometrist shall inform the Board in

writing as to which of such offices shall be deemed ~~his/her~~the optometrist's principal place of practice.

(d) “Evidence of licensure” is a current license to practice optometry, a Statement of Licensure, or a Branch Office License. ~~When the optometrist owns, singly or jointly with any others, the practice of optometry in more than one office or is employed to practice optometry in more than one office and it is infeasible to have his/her certificate posted in more than one of such offices, he/she shall have a numbered statement of licensure issued~~ Evidence of licensure and the Consumer Notice (rev. 8/15) issued by the Board ~~and signed by its executive officer~~ shall be conspicuously posted in each ~~of such additional office(s)~~ wherein ~~he/she~~the optometrist owns, singly or jointly with any others, the practice of optometry or wherein he/she practices optometry, ~~as an employee, provided that:~~ (1) He/she shall first send a written request to the Board for such statement of licensure or statements of licensure and shall include in such request the exact location of the office wherein it or each of them is to be posted in lieu of his/her certificate. (2) He/she shall not have a statement of licensure posted in any office other than as authorized by such statement of licensure. (3) A statement of licensure Evidence of licensure shall not be altered, ~~or assigned.~~ (4) A statement of licensure Evidence of licensure is to be immediately shall be surrendered to the Board ~~by the optometrist to whom it is issued upon the occurrence of~~ whenever the license ~~any of the following: (A) His/her certificate becomes expired~~ expires, is suspended or is revoked. Further, a Statement of Licensure or a Branch Office License shall be surrendered to the Board whenever the optometrist ceases practice at that location or terminates ~~.(B) He/she terminates ownership of the practice or his/her employment to practice optometry in the office wherein he/she is authorized by such statement of licensure to post the same in lieu of his/her certificate. (C) The office wherein he/she is authorized by such statement of licensure to post the same becomes the only office wherein he/she has ownership of the practice,~~ and/or practices optometry as an employee.

Authority cited: Section 3025, Business and Professions Code



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CONSUMER NOTICE

Designations After an Optometrist's Name

Certifications allow an optometrist to provide specific optometric procedures and services. Certifications are listed immediately to the right of the doctor's license number. The certification designations and their meanings are listed below. All optometrists may prescribe lenses.

TPA

Certified to use therapeutic pharmaceutical agents to treat certain conditions of the human eye or any of its appendages. May also perform certain procedures on the eye as listed in California Business and Professions Code Section 3041.

TPL

TPA certified with additional certification to perform lacrimal irrigation and dilation procedures for patients over the age of 12 years.

TPG

TPA certified with additional certification to diagnose and treat primary open angle glaucoma in patients over the age of 18 years.

TLG

TPA certified with additional certification to diagnose and treat primary open angle glaucoma in patients over the age of 18 years as well as certification to perform lacrimal irrigation and dilation procedures for patients over the age of 12 years.

DPA

Certified to use diagnostic pharmaceutical agents for examination purposes only. **Not certified** to treat diseases of the eye or its appendages.

No Designation

No designation indicates the optometrist is licensed to conduct exams for the overall health of the eyes and screen for disease, but **not certified** to use diagnostic pharmaceutical agents and **not certified** to treat diseases of the eye or its appendages.

Proposed Addition to CCR § 1523.5; Abandonment of Applications

- a) An application for a license, permit or registration shall be deemed abandoned and the initial license fee forfeited when the applicant fails to complete the application within one year after it is originally received by the board.
- b) An application submitted subsequent to the abandonment of a previous application shall be treated as a new application.

Proposed Addition to CCR § 1503. Accreditation

150x . For the purposes of the Optometry Practice Act, those colleges and universities offering optometric educational programs leading to the issuance of a Doctor of Optometry degree and accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) shall be deemed accredited by the board. Accreditation under this section shall automatically terminate upon termination of the program's accreditation by ACOE.