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To: Board Members **Date:** August 4, 2017

From: Madhu Chawla, OD **Telephone:** (916) 575-7170
 Committee Chair

Subject: **Agenda Item 14 – Practice and Education Committee Update**

During the 16/17 fiscal year, the Practice and Education Committee met four times to review continuing education applications and discuss issues affecting the profession of optometry. As detailed below, the Committee approved a total of 225 applications last fiscal year, whereas 4 were denied, and 5 were withdrawn.

All denied applications were missing information the committee felt was necessary to assess whether the course contributed to the skill and knowledge in the practice of optometry. These providers were contacted and informed of their deficiencies, and given an opportunity to resubmit their applications with the additional documentation. One such denial was resubmitted as requested, and approved during a subsequent committee meeting. Moreover, another provider whose application was denied chose to simply withdraw the application entirely. The Board is waiting for responses from the remaining denials.

On multiple occasions during the past fiscal year, Board staff have been asked by CE providers for timeframes as to when their application would be reviewed/approved. However, as committee meetings are normally scheduled when a critical mass of applications have been received and prepared for review, staff is typically unable to provide this information. During the June 22, 2017 committee meeting, the subject of scheduling committee meeting dates in advance, was agendized; however, it was decided that since the committee makeup may change, it would not be appropriate to prepare a schedule which would likely be changed.

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	FY16/17 Total
Approved	21	0	96	108	225
Denied	2	0	2	0	4
Withdrawn	5	0	0	0	5