

OHIO VISION PROFESSIONALS BOARD

eNewsletter

August 22, 2025 Volume 8, Issue 3



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EMAIL ADDRESS

The VPB's primary communication method to all stakeholders is through utilizing your email address in your account in eLicense. Please make sure your email address is always up to date. In addition, if you are not receiving our emails, please check your spam or junk folder. You may be missing important updates, reminders, and communications.

UPDATE PRACTICE ADDRESS

Upon relocation, please be sure to update your practice address on your elicense profile so that your information stays up to date in our system!

OFFICIAL INFORMATION

All OFFICIAL information about your license, Ohio Revised Code, Ohio Administrative Code, deadlines, waivers etc. will come directly from the Ohio Vision Professionals Board (VPB) through an email you have in eLicense or will be on the VPB website. **Please question the source of any UNOFFICIAL correspondence not from the VPB for legitimacy.** If you have any questions, please contact the board.

CONSUMER INFORMATION

**Federal Trade Commission (FTC) Consumer Advice-
Buying Prescription Glasses or Contact Lenses: Your
Rights**

Breaking News:

- **Renewals for Opticians begin October 1, 2025 and end on December 31, 2025. Opticians will receive the 1st renewal reminder on October 1, 2025.**



- **DO NOT EMAIL, FAX, OR MAIL CE certificates to the Board! The Board will audit CE hours after the renewal period. If selected for the CE Audit you will be required to submit certificates.**

The Vision Professionals Board **no** longer issues renewal cards for Opticians and Optometrists. Please verify your license to credentialing agencies via the [eLicense portal](#). **Disclaimer: License lookups using eLicense Ohio reflect an accurate representation of information maintained by the Board. Information accessed through this website is provided as a public service. No user may claim detrimental reliance thereon.**

APPRENTICES:

- Registration Fee \$20
- Renewal Fee \$3.50 (processing fee)
- Reinstatement Registration Fee \$20
- Spectacle dispensing optician license requirement of one thousand hours in optical dispensing under the direct supervision of a licensed dispensing optician, optometrist, or physician engaged in the practice of ophthalmology; or
- Spectacle-contact dispensing optician license requirement of one thousand five hundred hours in optical dispensing under the direct supervision of a licensed dispensing optician, optometrist, or physician engaged in the practice of ophthalmology.
- A person who is gaining experience under the supervision of a licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist that would qualify the person under division (B)(1) of section [4725.48](#) of the Revised Code to take the examination for optical dispensing is not required to register with the board. [4725.52 Apprentices](#)

OPTICIANS:

[4725.411](#) For your first renewal of a spectacle license, you are required to obtain 2 hours of dispensing of pre-packaged soft contact lenses (SCD).

- Initial Exam Application Fee \$195
- Endorsement Application Fee \$195
- Reinstatement Application Fee \$195
- Biennial Renewal Fee \$195.00 (Renewing Odd Years)

- Twelve Continuing Education Hours for Spectacle
- Twenty-four Continuing Education Hours for Spectacle-Contact Lens

CE Requirements for Ohio: Reporting Period 1/1/2023 through 12/31/2025

Licensed spectacle dispensing optician must complete the Spectacle Contact Dispensing (SCD) Continuing Education (CE) course prior to being able to dispense pre-packaged contact lenses. The CE is the only requirement for the first year.

Thereafter a licensed spectacle dispensing optician shall have completed twelve clock hours:

Spectacle (ABO) 8 hours

Contacts (NCLE) 4 hours

*Up to **two** management hours can be used for **spectacle**.

Licensed spectacle-contact dispensing optician do not need CE for the first renewal.

Thereafter a licensed spectacle-contact dispensing optician must complete twenty-four clock hours:

Spectacle (ABO) 8 hours

Contacts (NCLE) 16 hours

*Up to **six** management hours can be used for **contacts**.

OPTOMETRISTS:

- Initial Exam Application Fee \$350
- Endorsement Application Fee \$350
- Reinstatement Application Fee \$350
- Biennial Renewal Fee \$350.00 (Renewing Even Years)
- Fifty Continuing Education Hours

CE Requirements for Ohio: Reporting Period 1/1/2025 through 12/31/2026

Pharmacology	20 (Required)
Online	no maximum
Grand Rounds/Surgery Observation	16 (maximum)
Volunteer Hours (see Laws/Rules for guidelines)	16 (maximum 8 per calendar year)
Practice Management or Jurisprudence	4 (maximum)

CPR:

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation refresher training is acceptable for up to three hours credit for any one continuing education period. The three hours can be utilized for pharmacology continuing education compliance.

CE Waivers Requirements: Please read [Rule 4725-9-04 Exemption from compliance](#) and [ORC 4725.16](#) regarding the CE Waiver requirements. To apply for the waiver, please submit a service request via the eLicensing portal and attach the completed [CE waiver documentation](#). Incomplete documentation will not be considered by the board.

4725-3-09 (F) Issuance of certificates, renewal procedures, records.

Certificate of licensure holders are not required to submit any continuing education credit hours for the first renewal.

Inspection Violations: Common violations include expired therapeutic agents or expired contacts in the office, improperly displaying license and wall certificates, and apprentices failing to work under the direct supervision from their supervising optician or doctor. Click the links to understand proper compliance:

- [Issuing and display of Optometrist license.](#)
- [Issuance and display of Optician license.](#)
- [Requirements for Office Area.](#)
- [Keeping of records.](#)
- [On-Site Optometrist Inspection Report.](#)

Please check the expiration dates on all therapeutic pharmaceutical agents in your inventory.

Prescription specifications: Requires the providers name, postal address, and phone number. Other requirements are the patients name, date of examination, and issuance/expiration date of the prescription. Ohio Administrative Code [4725-7-01](#) does not require an actual signature on the prescription in order to be a valid prescription.

FREQUENTLY ASKED

Q: Is the Doctor's signature required on a prescription to be valid?

A: No. The name of the Optometrist, address, and phone number are the only requirements in accordance to the Ohio Administrative Code [4725-7-01](#).

Q: Is an Optometrist required by law to provide an interpreter for patients at the Optometrist cost?

A: Yes. According to the [Americans with Disabilities Act](#) the provider is responsible for providing an interpreter if one is requested by the patient.

Q: What is required on the name badges for licensed Opticians and Registered Apprentices?

A: The first name and designation of licensee is required in accordance with the Ohio Administrative Code [4725-5-16, Section \(F\)\(1\)](#).

Q: Are Optometric practices allowed to fill foreign prescriptions?

A: Yes. As long as the prescription meets all of the prescription requirements outlined in the Ohio Administrative Code [4725-7-01](#), then the foreign prescription would be considered valid.

Q: What is required to be displayed in optometric practices in Ohio post House Bill 509 going into effect?

A: For Optometrists and Opticians, the only requirement is for the license to be displayed. Registered Apprentices shall display the registration card with the supervising Opticians license in a conspicuous place.

2025 CALENDAR

September 1	Labor Day – Office Closed
October 13	Columbus Day – Office Closed
November 11	Veterans Day – Office Closed
November 20	Rules Committee Meeting – 10:00 AM
November 20	Board Meeting – 10:30 AM

MISSION

The mission of the Vision Professionals Board is to protect and serve the public of Ohio by effectively and efficiently regulating the practices of Optometry and Opticianry in Ohio. We strive to be a national leader for the establishment of professional practice standards and licensure of Optometrists and Opticians.



2025 Board Members	Ohio Vision Professionals Board	Board Staff
Adrienne Chatters OD, President Brian Miller, BCO, Secretary Thomas Barracato Rebecca Brown, OD Darrell Dye, OD Roger Geiger, Public Member	77 South High Street, Ste. 1670 Columbus, OH 43215 614.466.9709 office 614.995.5392 fax 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. M-F Board@Vision.Ohio.gov Rules@Vision.Ohio.gov www.Vision.Ohio.gov eLicense.Ohio.gov	Anne Gonzales, Executive Director Adela Lopez-Wellman, Program Admin. 2 Gary Price, Investigator Jordan Bare, Administrative Professional 3