



November 2, 2018

Board Room 3

9:15 a.m.

Call to Order – Clifford Roffis, O.D.

- Welcome
 - Emergency Egress Procedures
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Ordering of Agenda – Dr. Roffis

Public Comment – Dr. Roffis

The Board will receive all public comment related to agenda items at this time. The Board will not receive comment on any regulatory process for which a public comment period has closed or any pending or closed complaint or disciplinary matter.

Discussion Items

Review of approved continuing education providers

- Review of CE regulations for sample of other states (TN, MD, KY, DE, WV, TX, WA)
 - Review of Virginia's list of approved CE providers
 - Recommendations to the Board
-

Meeting Adjournment – Dr. Roffis

This information is in DRAFT form and is subject to change.

Agenda Item: Board review of continuing education providers

Included in your agenda package are:

A copy of Section 70. Requirements for Continuing Education

Copies of CE requirements from neighboring states

Staff notes:

At its March meeting, the Board considered a petition for rulemaking with a request that the National Glaucoma Society be added to the regulations as an approved sponsor of CE programs.

After discussion, the Board voted to take no action on the petition at that time but to review the regulations related to the listed of approved CE providers before any additions or subtractions are made to the list.

Board action:

Action is required if the Board determines that Section 70 should be amended.

18VAC105-20-70. Requirements for Continuing Education.

A. Each license renewal shall be conditioned upon submission of evidence to the board of 20 hours of continuing education taken by the applicant during the previous license period. A licensee who completes more than 20 hours of continuing education in a year shall be allowed to carry forward up to 10 hours of continuing education for the next annual renewal cycle.

1. The 20 hours may include up to two hours of recordkeeping for patient care, including coding for diagnostic and treatment devices and procedures or the management of an optometry practice, provided that such courses are not primarily for the purpose of augmenting the licensee's income or promoting the sale of specific instruments or products.

2. For optometrists who are certified in the use of therapeutic pharmaceutical agents, at least 10 of the required continuing education hours shall be in the areas of ocular and general pharmacology, diagnosis and treatment of the human eye and its adnexa, including treatment with new pharmaceutical agents, or new or advanced clinical devices, techniques, modalities, or procedures.

3. At least 10 hours shall be obtained through real-time, interactive activities, including in-person or electronic presentations, provided that during the course of the presentation, the licensee and the lecturer may communicate with one another.

4. A licensee may also include up to two hours of training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

5. Two hours of the 20 hours required for annual renewal may be satisfied through delivery of professional services, without compensation, to low-income individuals receiving health services through a local health department or a free clinic organized in whole or primarily for the delivery of those services. One hour of continuing education may be credited for three hours of providing such volunteer services, as documented by the health department or free clinic.

B. Each licensee shall attest to fulfillment of continuing education hours on the required annual renewal form. All continuing education shall be completed prior to the renewal deadline unless an extension or waiver has been granted by the Continuing Education Committee. A request for an extension or waiver shall be received prior to the renewal deadline each year.

C. All continuing education courses shall be offered by an approved sponsor or accrediting body listed in subsection G of this section. Courses that are not approved by a board-recognized sponsor in advance shall not be accepted for continuing education credit. For those courses that have a post-test requirement, credit will only be given if the optometrist receives a passing grade as indicated on the certificate.

D. Licensees shall maintain continuing education documentation for a period of not less than three years. A random audit of licensees may be conducted by the board, which will require that the licensee provide evidence substantiating participation in required continuing education courses within 14 days of the renewal date.

E. Documentation of hours shall clearly indicate the name of the continuing education provider and its affiliation with an approved sponsor or accrediting body as listed in subsection G of this section. Documents that do not have the required information shall not be accepted by the board for determining compliance. Correspondence courses shall be credited according to the date on which the post-test was graded as indicated on the continuing education certificate.

F. A licensee shall be exempt from the continuing competency requirements for the first renewal following the date of initial licensure by examination in Virginia.

G. An approved continuing education course or program, whether offered by correspondence, electronically or in person, shall be sponsored, accredited, or approved by one of the following:

1. The American Optometric Association and its constituent organizations.
2. Regional optometric organizations.
3. State optometric associations and their affiliate local societies.
4. Accredited colleges and universities providing optometric or medical courses.
5. The American Academy of Optometry and its affiliate organizations.
6. The American Academy of Ophthalmology and its affiliate organizations.
7. The Virginia Academy of Optometry.
8. Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE).
9. State or federal governmental agencies.
10. College of Optometrists in Vision Development.
11. The Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education of the American Medical Association for Category 1 credit.
12. Providers of training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).
13. Optometric Extension Program.

H. In order to maintain approval for continuing education courses, providers or sponsors shall:

1. Provide a certificate of attendance that shows the date, location, presenter or lecturer, content hours of the course and contact information of the provider or sponsor for verification. The certificate of attendance shall be based on verification by the sponsor of the attendee's presence throughout the course, either provided by a post-test or by a designated monitor.
2. Maintain documentation about the course and attendance for at least three years following its completion.

I. Falsifying the attestation of compliance with continuing education on a renewal form or failure to comply with continuing education requirements may subject a licensee to disciplinary action by the board, consistent with § 54.1-3215 of the Code of Virginia.

Statutory Authority

§ 54.1-2400 and 54.1-3223 of the Code of Virginia.

Historical Notes

Derived from VR510-01-1 § 7, eff. October 30, 1985; amended, Volume 04, Issue 03, eff. December 9, 1987; Volume 04, Issue 19, eff. July 20, 1988; Volume 05, Issue 10, eff. March 13, 1989; Volume 08, Issue 04, eff. January 1, 1992; Volume 11, Issue 20, eff. July 26, 1995; Volume 15, Issue 06, eff. January 6, 1999; Volume 19, Issue 07, eff. January 15, 2003; Volume 22, Issue 04, eff. November 30, 2005; Volume 26, Issue 12, eff. March 17, 2010; Volume 32, Issue 26, eff. September 21, 2016; Volume 33, Issue 11, eff. March 9, 2017; Volume 34, Issue 16, eff. May 2, 2018.

Tennessee Continuing Education Requirements

Continuing Education

CPR Certification Requirement (2016)

April 2015 Update on Continuing Education in Prescribing Controlled Substances

CONTINUING EDUCATION APPROVED VENDOR LIST

1. Course(s) sponsored by an Optometry College accredited by the American Optometric Council on Education (ACOE).
2. Course(s) sponsored by the American Optometric Association (AOA) or an affiliate of the AOA.
3. Course(s) sponsored by the Tennessee Association of Optometric Physicians (TAOP) or an affiliate of TAOP.
4. Course(s) sponsored by the American Academy of Optometry (AAO) or an affiliate of the AAO.
5. Course(s) offered at Southern Educational Congress of Optometry (SECO)
6. Course(s) offered at Tennessee Academy of Optometry

The Tennessee Board of Optometry reserves the right to amend this list as necessary. Any questions or concerns should be directed to the Secretary of the Tennessee Board of Optometry.

Except for grand clinical rounds and courses provided by the Tennessee Academy of Optometry, and except for the one (1) hour course designed specifically to address prescribing practices, all continuing education courses shall be approved by the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry's Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE).

For those therapeutically certified optometrists who have received approval to use pharmaceutical agents by injection pursuant to subparagraph 1045-02-.07 (3)(d), current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is required.

Maryland Continuing Education Requirements for 2 -Year Renewal Cycle

TPA Certified optometrists are required to document 50 hours 30 of which must be therapeutic and have current CPR certification.

DPA Certified optometrists are required to document 36 hours 6 of which must be diagnostic and have current CPR certification.

Non-Certified optometrists are required to document 36 hours.

APPROVAL CODES

The Board accepts only COPE approved or Maryland Board approved continuing education programs. The following COPE categories are accepted as therapeutic: (AS), (GL), (IS), (LP), (NO), (PD), (OP), (PH), (PO), (PS), (RE), (SD), (SP), (RS). These COPE categories are accepted as general: (CL), (EJ), (FV), (GO), (LV), (PB), (PM).

CATEGORIES

1. **Board Meeting Attendance** – The Board will allow continuing education credit of up to 4 hours in the two-year period for attendance at the regular session of Board meetings. Licensees will receive 2 hours and a certificate for each meeting attendance.

2. **Clinical Observation** – Observation of clinical procedures (without a corresponding lecture) will be accepted for continuing education credit up to a maximum of 6 hours in the two-year period. The site must be pre-approved by the Board. The licensee needs to obtain a letter verifying the number of hours from the person or facility where the observation is done.

3. **General** -Types of general hours may include the following:

CPR –Required for DPA and TPA certification. DPA and TPA certified optometrists are responsible for maintaining proficiency with the current CPR procedures as recommended by the American Heart Association. The Board will grant a maximum of 3 hours in the two-year period for CPR recertification.

Practice Management – The Board will allow a maximum of 4 hours in the two-year period for programs directly relating to patient care.

Ethics – The Board will allow up to a maximum of 4 hours for Board approved courses in optometric ethics.

Other – The Board will allow approved programs that are relevant to the practice of optometry.

4. Journal and Internet Courses – Courses given in optometric or other professional journals with a post-test, or Internet courses will be accepted for continuing education credit up to a maximum of 20 hours in the two-year period. Anyone with a physical handicap or other problem that precludes attendance at continuing education courses can request a waiver of the 20-hour limit from the Board.

5. Lecture - There is no limit to the number of hours for attending face to face/ in-person/ live lectures.

6. Presented Program - Licensees who present approved CE programs will be allowed continuing education hours for the preparation and presentation of the program as follows: for each hour of presentation, the licensee will be allowed one hour for preparation and one hour for presentation up to a maximum of 12 hours in the two- year period.

7. Pro Bono Work- The Board will allow 1 credit hour for each 3 hours of approved continuing education activity, up to a maximum of 6 credit hours per renewal cycle.

8. Published Paper – The Board will allow continuing education credit for a maximum of 9 hours in the two-year period for papers which have been either published or peer-reviewed.

Kentucky Continuing Education Requirements

All continuing education taken for license renewal must be sponsored by a state, regional (multi-state like SECO) or national optometric association*, an accredited school of optometry or an accredited school of medicine. This is pursuant to 201 KAR 5:030 Section 2.

*National optometric association would be the American Optometric Association, American Academy of Optometry, College of Vision Development and the National Optometric Association.

This means that all education certificates submitted for license renewal, must be sponsored by one of the above groups including all COPE courses, and OEP courses, internet or correspondence or audio-digest.

If you use the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry's OE Tracker database to document your continuing education, please forward the printout with your signature to our office as soon as you complete the education. This will expedite the release of your license during renewals.

201 KAR 5:030. Annual courses of study required.

RELATES TO: KRS 218A.202, 218A.205(3)(h), 320.280

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 218A.205(3)(h), 320.240(7), 320.280(2)

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 320.280(2) requires all licensed optometrists to annually take courses of study in subjects relating to the practice of optometry. KRS 218A.205(3)(h) requires optometrists to obtain seven and one-half (7.5) percent of their continuing education credits in the use of the electronic monitoring system established pursuant to KRS 218A.202, pain management, or addiction disorders. This administrative regulation establishes the required hours of study and prescribes the approved programs and those records that shall be maintained and submitted showing proof of attendance at those programs.

Section 1. (1) The annual course of study shall be completed each calendar year.

(2)(a) A licensee shall attend a minimum of eight (8) continuing education credit hours.

(b) In addition to the requirements of paragraph (a) of this subsection, an optometrist who is authorized to prescribe therapeutic agents shall attend a minimum of seven (7) credit hours in ocular therapy and pharmacology, for a total of at least fifteen (15) continuing education credits.

(c) In addition to the requirements of paragraph (a) and (b) of this subsection, an optometrist who is credentialed by the board to perform expanded therapeutic procedures shall attend a minimum of five (5) additional credit hours in expanded therapeutic procedures, for a total of at least twenty (20) continuing education credits.

(d) A licensee who is authorized to prescribe controlled substances shall obtain two (2) credit hours that relate to the use of the electronic monitoring system established in accordance with KRS 218A.202 known as Kentucky All Schedule Prescription Electronic Reporting (KASPER), pain management, or addiction disorders as part of the licensee's total continuing education credits.

Section 2. In order to be approved, an educational course shall be sponsored by a recognized not for profit state, regional (multistate), or national optometric association, an accredited college of optometry, or an accredited college of medicine.

Section 3. (1) In order to be credited for an educational course, a licensee shall submit an attendance form to the board.

(2) The attendance form shall be submitted on or before December 31 of each calendar year.

Section 4. A sponsor of an approved educational course shall furnish an attendance form to a licensee. The attendance form shall contain the following information:

- (1) Name of the sponsoring organization;
- (2) Name and address of the licensee;
- (3) Educational topics addressed at the course;
- (4) Identity of the speakers;
- (5) Number of hours attended by the licensee;
- (6) Date of the program;
- (7) Statement by the licensee that he or she has attended the course; and
- (8) Signature of an official of the sponsoring organization.

Section 5. Credit shall not be given for more than two (2) hours attendance in a course of of-

office management and administration.

Section 6. (1) Except as established in subsection (2) of this section, credit may be granted for a maximum of five (5) hours continuing education through the Internet.

(2) The credit hours required by Section 1(2)(c) of this administrative regulation shall not be obtained through the Internet. (1 Ky.R. 61; eff. 11-13-1974; Am. 17 Ky.R. 2486; 2941; eff. 4-5-1991; 27 Ky.R. 2866; 28 Ky.R. 350; eff. 8-15-2001; 28 Ky.R. 2639; 29 Ky.R. 430; eff. 8-12-2002; 39 Ky.R. 511; eff. 2-1-2013; 42 Ky.R. 824; 1460; eff. 11-18-2015.)

Delaware Continuing Education Requirements

4.0 Continuing Education Requirements

4.1 Hours Required

4.1.1 Beginning in 2007, the required CE's shall be completed no later than June 30 of every odd-numbered year.

4.1.2 All non-therapeutically-licensed optometrists shall acquire 12 hours of continuing education (CE) during each biennial licensure period.

4.1.3 All therapeutically-licensed optometrists shall acquire 30 hours of continuing education during each biennial licensure period. Twenty of those thirty hours must be comprised of education in the areas of therapeutics and management of ocular disease. A maximum of six of the thirty may be in the area of practice management. All therapeutically-licensed optometrists must also maintain current CPR certifications for both children and adults throughout the licensure period.

4.1.4 Any new licensee shall be required to complete continuing education equivalent to one hour for each month between the date of licensure and the biennial renewal date. The first twelve (12) hours of pro-rated continuing education must be in the treatment and management of ocular disease.

4.1.5 Hardship Exemption. The Board has the power to waive any part of the CE requirement. Exemptions to the CE requirement may be granted due to prolonged illness or other incapacity. Application for exemption shall be made in writing to the Board by the applicant for renewal and must be received by the Board prior to the end of the license renewal period.

4.2 Content of Mandatory Continuing Education (CE)

4.2.1 Six practice management hours will be accepted toward the continuing education requirement.

4.2.2 COPE-Approved Self-Reported Study

4.2.2.1 Non-therapeutically certified licensees - Of the 12 hour biennial requirement for non-therapeutically certified licensees, a maximum of 2 hours may be fulfilled by self-reported study.

4.2.2.2 Therapeutically certified licensees - Of the 30 hour biennial requirement for therapeutically certified licensees, a maximum of six hours may be fulfilled by self-reported study.

4.2.2.3 Self-reported study may include:

4.2.2.3.1 Reading of Optometric journals

4.2.2.3.2 Optometric tape journals

4.2.2.3.3 Optometric audiovisual material

4.2.2.3.4 Other materials given prior approval by the Board.

4.2.2.3.5 Proof of completion from the sponsoring agency is required for credit.

4.2.3 Continuing Education courses given by the following organizations will receive credit. CE credit will be given for the scientific session portion only of any meetings of these organizations:

4.2.3.1 American Optometric Association

4.2.3.2 Delaware Optometric Association

4.2.3.3 American Academy of Optometry

4.2.3.4 Recognized state regional or national optometric societies

4.2.3.5 Schools and colleges of Optometry

4.2.3.6 Meetings of other organizations as may be approved by the Board.

4.2.3.7 COPE-approved courses

4.3 Failure to Comply with Continuing Education Requirements. Licensees who fail to comply with the required continuing education requirements by the end of the biennial licensing period may be referred for possible disciplinary action pursuant to Section 2113.

4.4 Proof of continuing education is satisfied with an attestation by the licensee that he or she has satisfied the requirements of Section 4.0.

4.4.1 Attestation may be completed electronically if the renewal is accomplished online. In the alternative, paper renewal documents that contain the attestation of completion may be submitted.

4.4.2 Licensees selected for random audit will be required to supplement the attestation with attendance verification pursuant to subsection 4.5.

4.5 Random audits will be performed by the Board to ensure compliance with the CE requirements.

4.5.1 The Board will notify licensees within sixty (60) days after June 30 that they have been selected for audit.

4.5.2 Licensees selected for random audit shall be required to submit verification within ten (10) days of receipt of notification of selection for audit.

4.5.3 Verification shall include such information necessary for the Board to assess whether the course or other activity meets the CE requirements in Section 4.0, which may include, but is not limited to, the following information:

4.5.3.1 Proof of attendance. While course brochures may be used to verify contact hours, they are not considered to be acceptable proof for use of verification of course attendance;

4.5.3.2 Date of CE course;

4.5.3.3 Instructor of CE course;

4.5.3.4 Sponsor of CE course;

4.5.3.5 Title of CE course; and

4.5.3.6 Number of hours of CE course; and

4.5.3.7 Report obtained from the Optometric Education (OE) tracker maintained by ARBO.

4.6 Licensees must maintain all proof of continuing education for at least two licensure periods.

4.7 Licensure--Renewal

4.7.1 The biennial licensure period expires on June 30 of every odd-numbered year. A licensee may have his/her license renewed by submitting a renewal application to the Board by the renewal date and upon payment of the renewal fee prescribed by the Division of Professional Regulation along with an attestation of completion of the continuing education requirements.

4.7.2 Any licensee who fails to renew his/her license by the renewal date may reactivate his/her license during the one (1) year period immediately following the license expiration date provided the licensee pays a late fee in addition to the prescribed renewal fee, submits an application on an

appropriate form to the Board and provides proof that he/she completed the required continuing education.

West Virginia Continuing Education Requirements

§14-10-3. Continuing Education.

3.1. It is the responsibility of a licensed optometrist to maintain evidence of meeting the continuing education requirements for license renewal for random audit by the Board.

3.2.3.1. A licensee shall complete a minimum of forty-three (43) hours of continuing education for each even numbered, two (2) year cycle.

3.3.3.2. Of the required forty-three (43) hours, the licensee shall complete: the following categories of continuing education:

3.3.a.3.2a. a minimum of twelve (12) hours of study in pharmacology or therapeutics courses;

3.3.b.3.2.b. a maximum of six (6) hours of study in practice management;

3.3.c.3.2.c. a maximum of ten (10) hours of optometric study may be taken by correspondence, or via the Internet or other electronic means;

3.4.3.3. Of the required forty-three (43) hours, a licensee who holds an oral pharmaceutical certificate shall complete at least twelve (12) hours of instruction in ocular pathology and therapeutic pharmacological agents.

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3.5.3.4. Of the required forty-three (43) hours, a licensee who holds an Injectable Pharmaceutical Agents Certificate shall complete two (2) hours of instruction in administering pharmaceutical agents by injection.

3.6. 3.4.1. In addition to the above listed continuing education requirements, a licensee who holds an Injectable Pharmaceutical Agents Certificate shall obtain and maintain current certification from the American Red Cross, American Heart Association or their successor organizations in basic life support.

3.5. It is the responsibility of the licensee to maintain evidence of meeting the continuing education requirements for a period of four (4) years. Required documentation of compliance with continuing education requirements is subject to audit by the Board. A licensee who fails a Board audit of continuing education records may be subject to disciplinary action.

3.7.3.6. All continuing education study must be sponsored or approved by one of the organizations listed in subsection 5.1. of this rule or pre-approved by the Board as outlined in section 6 of this rule.

3.7. The Board reserves its right to assign the category of credit granted for each continuing education course in accordance with W.Va. Code R., §14-10-3.2. through W. Va. Code R., §14-10-3.4.

§14-10-5. Approved Continuing Education and Accreditation Programs.

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5.1. Educational programs sponsored or approved by the following organizations are approved by the Board as meeting the minimum standards are:

5.1.a. the American Optometric Association or its affiliated organizations;

5.1.b. the West Virginia Association of Optometric Physicians and other state optometric associations;

- 5.1.c. the American Academy of Optometry;
- 5.1.d. post-graduate courses offered at any accredited school or college of optometry;
- 5.1.e. the Southern Council of Optometry or its affiliates; and
- 5.1.f. the Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE).

§14-10-6. Pre Approval of Continuing Education Courses or Events.

- 6.1. A continuing education provider may submit a written request to the Board for continuing education course or event approval if the continuing education provider is not listed as an approved sponsor in section §14-10-5. of this rule may submit a written request to the Board for continuing education course or event approval. Each application shall include payment of the fee established in the Board's rule, W. Va. State Code of Rules., §14-5-1., et. seq.
- 6.2. A request for approval from a continuing education provider must be received at least six months ninety (90) days prior to the course, meeting or seminar; however, the Board may waive this requirement at its discretion.
- 6.3. The Board may approve courses, meetings or seminars either within or without the State of West Virginia.
- 6.4.6.3. The continuing education provider shall include a Curriculum Vitae for the instructor as well as a copy of all handouts, power point presentations, or other electronic or non electronic materials that are part of the continuing education course as part of its application for Board approval.
- 6.5.6.4. Upon review the Board may reject the continuing education course, approve the continuing education course or approve the continuing education course conditionally.
- 6.5.a.6.4.a. If the Board approves the course conditionally, the continuing education provider must submit evidence that the conditions have been met prior to the continuing education event for the event to be approved by the Board.
- 6.6.6.5. All decisions of the Board are final and there is no appeal process. If the Board rejects a continuing education course or event and the continuing education provider wishes to pursue resubmit the request for Board approval, a new application must be submitted in compliance with the requirements of this rule.
- 6.7.6.6. In no event shall the Board consider approval of a continuing education course or event retroactively.
- 6.8.6.7. The Board president may designate a committee to recommend approval or disapproval of the continuing education courses submitted. The committee members may or may not be members of the Board. The committee shall report its findings to the Board for action.

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§14-10-7. Required Documentation.

- 7.1. Evidence of attendance by shall be furnished by the continuing education provider or sponsoring organization to each registrant at obtained and maintained by the licensee. which The evidence of attendance shall include the program, showing the date and place of the meeting or instruction, speaker or instructor, the title of the course, the sponsor of the meeting, COPE or other approved program number if applicable, and hours in attendance, the method of instructional delivery by which may include, but is not limited to, live on-site presentation, correspondence, Internet or

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Texas Administrative Code

TITLE 22

EXAMINING BOARDS

PART 14

TEXAS OPTOMETRY BOARD

CHAPTER 275

CONTINUING EDUCATION

RULE §275.1

General Requirements

(a) The Act requires each optometrist licensed in this state to take 16 hours of continuing education per calendar year with at least six hours in the diagnosis or treatment of ocular disease. Beginning with the 2010 license renewal, the subject of at least one hour of the required 16 hours shall be professional responsibility. The calendar year is considered to begin January 1 and run through December 31.

(b) The board accepts for continuing education credit all courses sponsored by any board-accredited college or schools of optometry and such other programs or courses of other organizations as are approved by the board upon recommendation from the Continuing Education Committee, appointed by the Board Chair. The Continuing Education Committee will consider, among other things in its discretion, the following criteria in approving courses and classifying the hours as general, diagnosis or treatment of ocular disease, and professional responsibility:

- (1) all subjects of education must be directly related to optometry;
- (2) courses sponsored by or given by accredited optometry schools will be granted automatic approval as limited by paragraph (9) of this subsection;
- (3) courses meeting evaluation standards and receiving approval of the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry will be granted automatic approval as limited by paragraph (9) of this subsection;
- (4) courses sponsored by optometric organizations may be given approval;
- (5) courses sponsored by universities or accredited nonoptometric schools may be given approval if the subject matter is directly related to optometry;
- (6) correspondence courses sponsored and graded by accredited optometry schools may be given approval. The maximum number of hours allowed for these courses is set out in §275.2(f) of this title;
- (7) courses sponsored by individual providers may be approved but providers must supply the committee with a synopsis of the lecture material to be presented, itinerary including time in the class, and resumes of the lecturers;
- (8) on-line computer courses with post-course testing sponsored by the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry or by accredited optometry schools. The maximum number of hours allowed for these courses is set out in §275.2(f) of this title.

(9) courses in professional responsibility given by a board accredited instate college or school of optometry may be given approval if the course:

(A) is made available as a live course in this state and on the internet, and

(B) includes the study of professional ethics, the Texas Optometry Act and Board Rules, judicious prescribing of dangerous drugs, pain management, or drug abuse by professionals.

(c) Licensees who have not complied with the education requirements may not be issued a renewal license unless such person is entitled to an exemption under Section 351.309 of the Act. The following persons are exempt:

(1) a licensee who holds a Texas license, but does not practice optometry in Texas; provided, however, that if at any time during the calendar year for which such exemption has been obtained such person desires to practice optometry, such person shall not be entitled to practice optometry in Texas until 16 hours of continuing education credits are obtained and the board has been notified of the completion of such continuing education requirements;

(2) a licensee who served in the regular armed forces of the United States during part of the 12 months immediately preceding the annual license renewal date;

(3) a licensee who submits proof satisfactory to the board that the licensee suffered a serious or disabling illness or physical disability which prevented the licensee from complying with the requirements of this section during the 12 months immediately preceding the annual license renewal date; provided, however, that in lieu of claiming the exemption, a licensee who has submitted the requisite proof of illness or disability may elect to obtain the education requirement by correspondence or multi-media courses sponsored, monitored, or graded by colleges of optometry; or

(4) a licensee who is first licensed within the 12 months immediately preceding the annual renewal date.

(d) Approved courses must be available to all Texas licensed optometrists at a fee considered reasonable and nondiscriminatory.

(e) Summaries of the courses and resumes of those teaching must be submitted to the board's Continuing Education Committee for approval or disapproval. This information should be received 60 days prior to the date the course is to take place.

(f) Written proof of attendance and completion of approved courses must be supplied by the licensed optometrist to the board in conjunction with the renewal application for an optometry license. If the licensed optometrist is practicing in Texas, the licensee should submit the original proof of attendance or the approved sponsors of continuing education may submit to the board written proof of attendance and completion of approved courses on behalf of the licensed optometrist. Information such as the following will be required: sponsoring organizations; location and dates; course names; instructors; names of attendee; number of education hours completed; and any other information deemed necessary by the board. Proof of attendance supplied by the sponsor should contain at least one signature of the sponsor's designee.

(g) Retired License Continuing Education.

(1) An applicant with a current license applying for the Retired License shall obtain 8 hours of Board approved continuing education during the calendar year preceding the date of application. All of the hours may be obtained on the Internet or by correspondence. At least one half of these hours must be diagnostic/therapeutic as approved by the Board and one hour must be professional responsibility.

(2) An applicant whose license has expired for one year or more shall obtain 16 hours of Board approved continuing education during the calendar year preceding the date of application. All of the hours may be obtained on the Internet or by correspondence. At least 8 of these hours must be diagnostic/therapeutic as approved by the Board and one hour must be professional responsibility.

(3) The holder of a retired license shall obtain 8 hours of Board approved continuing education during the calendar year prior to renewing the license. All of the hours may be obtained on the Internet or by correspondence. At least one half of these hours must be diagnostic/therapeutic as approved by the Board and one hour must be professional responsibility.

Source Note: The provisions of this §275.1 adopted to be effective August 11, 1983, 8 TexReg 2934; amended to be effective March 4, 1985, 10 TexReg 631; amended to be effective May 31, 1988, 13 TexReg 2317; amended to be effective January 1, 1994, 18 TexReg 5745; amended to be effective July 19, 1994, 19 TexReg 5169; amended to be effective May 17, 1996, 21 TexReg 3942; amended to be effective May 28, 1997, 22 TexReg 4362; amended to be effective February 11, 1998, 23 TexReg 1024; amended to be effective April 7, 2003, 28 TexReg 2924; amended to be effective December 6, 2005, 30 TexReg 8097; amended to be effective June 3, 2008, 33 TexReg 4302; amended to be effective December 24, 2009, 34 TexReg 9212

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Texas Administrative Code

<u>TITLE 22</u> <u>PART 14</u> <u>CHAPTER 275</u> <u>RULE §275.2</u>	EXAMINING BOARDS TEXAS OPTOMETRY BOARD CONTINUING EDUCATION Required Education
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(a) Education for an advanced degree in optometric field or optometrically related field. One hour credit will be given for each semester hour earned, and a total of 16 credit hours will be allowed for each full academic year of study.

(b) Research in lieu of training. Credit will be given only for full-time research. Sixteen credit hours will be given for each full year of research.

(c) Teaching. One credit hour is allowed for each education hour of teaching of board-approved continuing education courses.

(d) Continuing education courses. See §275.1(b) of this title.

(e) Clinical rotations or rounds. One hour of continuing education credit will be given for each two clock hours spent on clinical rounds, for a maximum of four hours per calendar year. Sponsoring organizations and universities must submit information regarding scheduled rounds and certify to the board at least on a quarterly basis the number of continuing education hours obtained.

(f) Credit will be given for a maximum of eight hours of the combined total of correspondence course hours and on-line computer course hours per calendar year. On-line computer courses are those courses described in §275.1(b)(8) of this title (relating to General Requirements). Correspondence courses must be sponsored and graded by accredited optometry colleges.

Source Note: The provisions of this §275.2 adopted to be effective August 11, 1983, 8 TexReg 2934; amended to be effective March 4, 1985, 10 TexReg 631; amended to be effective August 5, 1985, 10 TexReg 2356; amended to be effective February 11, 1987, 12 TexReg 344; amended to be effective May 28, 1990, 15 TexReg 2756; amended to be effective June 2, 1992, 17 TexReg 3731; amended to be effective January 1, 1994, 18 TexReg 5745; amended to be effective May 17, 1996, 21 TexReg 3942; amended to be effective May 28, 1997, 22 TexReg 4362; amended to be effective March 28, 2002, 27 TexReg 2237

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WAC 246-851-090**Continuing education requirement.**

- (1) A licensed optometrist must complete and document fifty hours of continuing education every two years and comply with chapter **246-12 WAC**, Part 7.
- (2) A licensed optometrist must meet the continuing education requirement by:
 - (a) Completing fifty hours of education that complies with WAC **246-851-125** through **246-851-230**; or
 - (b) Alternatively meeting the requirements of this subsection by providing proof that he or she:
 - (i) Holds a current Optometric Recognition Award from the American Optometric Association;
 - (ii) Holds a current certification by the American Board of Optometry or other certification program deemed substantially equivalent to American Board of Medical Specialties' programs; or
 - (iii) Is practicing solely outside of Washington state and meets the continuing education requirements of the state or territory in which he or she practices.

[Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070(2)**. WSR 15-24-119, § 246-851-090, filed 12/1/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW **43.70.280**. WSR 98-05-060, § 246-851-090, filed 2/13/98, effective 3/16/98. Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070(2)**. WSR 97-12-088, § 246-851-090, filed 6/4/97, effective 7/5/97. Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070**. WSR 92-06-030 (Order 248B), § 246-851-090, filed 2/26/92, effective 3/28/92; WSR 91-06-025 (Order 119B), recodified as § 246-851-090, filed 2/26/91, effective 3/29/91; WSR 88-07-047 (Order PM 710), § 308-53-100, filed 3/11/88. Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070(5)**. WSR 80-01-088 (Order PL 326), § 308-53-100, filed 12/28/79; Order PL 239, § 308-53-100, filed 3/3/76.]

WAC 246-851-120**Approval of courses.**

The board will not authorize or approve specific continuing education courses or materials. All continuing education courses must contribute to the professional knowledge and development of the practitioner, enhance services provided to patients, and contribute to the practitioner's ability to deliver current standards of care. The board will accept continuing education that reasonably falls within these criteria, and relies upon the integrity of each individual practitioner, as well as that of program sponsors, in complying with this requirement and experiencing meaningful and meritorious learning. The board reserves the right to not accept credits from any category for any practitioner if, upon auditing, it determines that a course or material did not provide appropriate information or training.

[Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070**(2). WSR 15-24-119, § 246-851-120, filed 12/1/15, effective 1/1/16; WSR 97-12-088, § 246-851-120, filed 6/4/97, effective 7/5/97. Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070**. WSR 91-22-061 (Order 210B), § 246-851-120, filed 11/1/91, effective 12/2/91; WSR 91-06-025 (Order 119B), recodified as § 246-851-120, filed 2/26/91, effective 3/29/91. Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070**(2). WSR 89-10-030 (Order PM 839), § 308-53-123, filed 4/27/89.]

WAC 246-851-125**Category 1—Credit for education from optometry-specific organizations.**

(1) A minimum of twenty-five category 1 credit hours must be earned in any two-year reporting period.

(2) Up to ten category 1 credit hours may be earned for live courses attended remotely, provided that attendees have the documented opportunity to question the instructor and hear the questions of other attendees in real time.

(3) Credits may be obtained for in-person live-attended education offered by the following optometry-specific course and program sources:

(a) The American Optometric Association (AOA) and its state affiliates;

(b) Educational institutions accredited by the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO);

(c) The Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) and its state agency members;

(d) Nationally recognized academic and scholarly optometric organizations including, but not limited to, the American Academy of Optometry, the Optometric Extension Program, and the College of Optometrists in Vision Development; and

(e) Ophthalmic referral centers, secondary and tertiary ophthalmic specialty providers.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.54.070(2). WSR 15-24-119, § 246-851-125, filed 12/1/15, effective 1/1/16.]

WAC 246-851-140**Category 2—Credit for education from nonoptometric organizations.**

(1) A maximum of twenty category 2 credit hours may be earned in any two-year reporting period.

(2) Credits may be obtained for in-person live-attended education offered by the following nonoptometry-specific course and program sources:

(a) Category 1 and category 2 continuing medical education courses approved by the medical quality assurance commission;

(b) First aid, CPR, and other emergency-related courses; and

(c) Industry-sponsored scientific courses that enhance the knowledge of ocular conditions and diseases, and their treatments.

[Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070**(2). WSR 15-24-119, § 246-851-140, filed 12/1/15, effective 1/1/16; WSR 97-12-088, § 246-851-140, filed 6/4/97, effective 7/5/97. Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070**. WSR 91-06-025 (Order 119B), recodified as § 246-851-140, filed 2/26/91, effective 3/29/91. Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070**(2). WSR 89-10-030 (Order PM 839), § 308-53-135, filed 4/27/89. Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070**(5). WSR 80-01-088 (Order PL 326), § 308-53-135, filed 12/28/79.]

WAC 246-851-150**Category 3—Credit for teaching.**

(1) A maximum of ten category 3 credit hours may be earned in any two-year reporting period.

(2) Credits may be obtained for formal and informal optometric instruction.

(a) Three credit hours will be granted for each course hour taught.

(b) Credit will be granted for only the first time a course is taught.

(c) Qualifying courses must be presented to optometrists or allied health professionals.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.54.070(2). WSR 15-24-119, § 246-851-150, filed 12/1/15, effective 1/1/16; WSR 02-10-065, § 246-851-150, filed 4/26/02, effective 5/27/02; WSR 97-12-088, § 246-851-150, filed 6/4/97, effective 7/5/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.54.070. WSR 91-06-025 (Order 119B), recodified as § 246-851-150, filed 2/26/91, effective 3/29/91; Order PL 239, § 308-53-140, filed 3/3/76.]

WAC 246-851-155

Category 4—Credit for publishing and exhibiting.

(1) A maximum of ten category 4 credit hours may be earned in any two-year reporting period.

(2) Five credits may be obtained for each paper, exhibit, publication, or for each chapter of a book that is authored and published.

(a) A paper must be published in a recognized optometric or medical journal.

(b) A qualifying paper or exhibit must be presented to optometrists or allied health professionals.

(c) Credit may be claimed only once for the scientific materials published or exhibited.

(d) Credit will be assigned as of the date materials were presented or published.

[Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070**(2). WSR 15-24-119, § 246-851-155, filed 12/1/15, effective 1/1/16.]

WAC 246-851-170**Category 5—Credit for self-directed study.**

(1) A maximum of twenty-five category 5 credit hours may be earned in any two-year reporting period.

(2) Credits may be obtained for nonsupervised individual continuing educational activities.

(a) Subject matter must be from professional optometric or medical literature or multimedia material;

(b) Course material may be presented in any form of printed or electronic media;

(c) Courses must be approved by a category 1 organization listed in WAC **246-851-125**; and

(d) Successful completion of an examination or other assessment tool is required for qualifying credit. Up to ten category 5 credit hours may be earned by submitting in lieu of an assessment tool a nonhandwritten report which includes a copy of the article, publication source and date, and at least ten descriptive statements from the article.

[Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070**(2). WSR 15-24-119, § 246-851-170, filed 12/1/15, effective 1/1/16; WSR 04-21-077, § 246-851-170, filed 10/20/04, effective 11/20/04; WSR 97-12-088, § 246-851-170, filed 6/4/97, effective 7/5/97. Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070**. WSR 91-22-061 (Order 210B), § 246-851-170, filed 11/1/91, effective 12/2/91; WSR 91-06-025 (Order 119B), recodified as § 246-851-170, filed 2/26/91, effective 3/29/91. Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070**(2). WSR 89-10-030 (Order PM 839), § 308-53-146, filed 4/27/89. Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070**(5). WSR 80-04-054 (Order PL 331), § 308-53-146, filed 3/21/80.]

WAC 246-851-230**Credits for practice management.**

A maximum of ten credit hours may be granted in any two-year reporting period for practice management courses or programs.

[Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070**(2). WSR 15-24-119, § 246-851-230, filed 12/1/15, effective 1/1/16; WSR 97-12-088, § 246-851-230, filed 6/4/97, effective 7/5/97. Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070**. WSR 91-22-061 (Order 210B), § 246-851-230, filed 11/1/91, effective 12/2/91; WSR 91-06-025 (Order 119B), recodified as § 246-851-230, filed 2/26/91, effective 3/29/91. Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070**(2). WSR 89-10-030 (Order PM 839), § 308-53-175, filed 4/27/89.]

WAC 246-851-235

Credits for cultural competency in clinical care.

(1) This section addresses the increasing demand for health care practitioners to provide effective care for patients of diverse cultural and social origins. All optometrists are encouraged to increase their knowledge and practice skills to provide effective care to all patients regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or primary language.

(2) Continuing education credit will be granted for courses or materials related to the awareness of health disparities among different populations and the ability to effectively provide health services in cross cultural situations.

(3) No more than two credit hours will be granted under this section to any licensee in any two-year reporting period.

[Statutory Authority: RCW **18.54.070** and **43.70.615**. WSR 15-05-053, § 246-851-235, filed 2/13/15, effective 3/16/15.]