

# OHIO VISION PROFESSIONALS BOARD

## eNewsletter

April 2023, Volume 5, Issue 1



### HIGHLIGHTS:

- OFFICIAL INFO
- FREQUENTLY ASKED
- **BREAKING NEWS**
- CALENDAR
- MISSION
- BOARD MEMBERS
- CONTACT INFO
- BOARD STAFF

### EMAIL ADDRESSES

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.

### 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.

### 4725-19-01 Safe Haven Program

A SAFE HAVEN PROGRAM  
FOR THE OHIO VISION  
PROFESSIONALS BOARD  
LICENSEES

Confidential services  
are now just a phone  
call or email away!

614-841-9690  
info@ohiophp.org

ALL CALLS ARE  
ANONYMOUS

OhioPHP Vision Professional Board

## **BREAKING NEWS:**

H.B. 509 was signed into law on January 5, 2023. The bill will take effect on **April 6, 2023** and made the following changes.

The Vision Professionals Board will **no** longer be issuing renewal cards for Ocularists, 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 will continue to receive a registration card via email as granted by H.B. 509.

## **APPRENTICES:**

### **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
- **Board will change expiration dates to 12/31/2025**

**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** does 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**.

- Stand alone Contact lens dispensing license eliminated on 12/31/2024

## **OCULARISTS**

- Licensure Eliminated on **12/31/2024**

## **OPTOMETRISTS:**

### **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
- **Board will change expiration dates to 12/31/2024**

**CE Requirements for Ohio:** Reporting Period 10/1/2022 through 12/31/2024

Pharmacology	20 (Required)
Online	30 (maximum)
Grand Rounds/Surgery Observation	16 (maximum)
Volunteer Hours (see Laws/Rules for guidelines)	16 (maximum)
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](#) for CE period

10/1/2022-12/31/2024. Incomplete documentation will not be considered by the board.

**COPE Synchronous In-Person, Synchronous Virtual and Asynchronous Course Format:**

The VPB will accept Synchronous In-Person, Synchronous Virtual, and Asynchronous Courses. Please read [4725-9-03 \(10\)](#)

**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 Ocularists/Optician license.](#)
- [Requirements for Office Area.](#)
- [Keeping of records.](#)
- [On-Site Optometrist Inspection Report.](#)



**FREQUENTLY ASKED**

Only a **licensed** optician can hold the title “**optician**.” If an organization or business is found to be listing an unlicensed individual as an “optician” on their website or place of business they would be in violation of [4725.41](#) License Required.

An **optometrist** cannot work for an unlicensed individual or an **optician** except in a not for profit corporation or foundation [4725-5-06](#).

**2023 CALENDAR**

February 20	Board Office Closed
March 30	Rules Committee Meeting 8:30 AM
March 30	Board Meeting 10:30 AM
March 30	Last day: <b>OPTICIAN</b> 2023 RENEWAL before mandatory retest
April 1	<b>APPRENTICE</b> Optician renewal begins
<b>April 6</b>	<b>H.B.509 goes into effect</b>
May 18	Rules Committee Meeting 8:30 AM
May 18	Board Meeting 10:00 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, Opticianry, and Ocularistry in Ohio. We strive to be a national leader for the establishment of professional practice standards and licensure of Optometrists, Opticians, and Ocularists.



## Board Members

Darrell Dye, OD, President  
Rebecca Brown, OD, Secretary  
Thomas Barracato  
Adrienne B. Chatters, OD  
Mark Gibson, Public Member  
Brian Miller, BCO  
Thomas Nye, OD

## Ohio Vision Professionals Board

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](mailto:Board@Vision.Ohio.gov)  
[Rules@Vision.Ohio.gov](mailto:Rules@Vision.Ohio.gov)  
[www.Vision.Ohio.gov](http://www.Vision.Ohio.gov)  
[eLicense.Ohio.gov](http://eLicense.Ohio.gov)

## Board Staff

Adela Lopez-Wellman,  
Interim Executive Director  
  
Gary Price,  
Investigator  
  
Jordan Bare,  
Administrative  
Professional