

History

The Vision Professionals Board (VPB) came into existence on January 21, 2018. The 132nd General Assembly, consolidated the Optical Dispensers Board and the State Board of Optometry into the VPB. The board oversees activities related to regulating the practices and licensing of over 7,000 apprentices, ocularists, opticians and optometrists. The board has seven members appointed by the Governor consisting of four optometrists, two opticians, and one public member. Board members are appointed to three (3) year terms. Several public meetings are held throughout the year throughout Ohio.

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
eLicense.Ohio.gov
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Any questions, just contact us!



LEARN ABOUT EYE PROFESSIONIONS

Apprentices

Ocularists

Opticians

Optometrists





Optician



A professional licensed dispensing optician, L.D.O., is a technical practitioner who designs, adapts, fits, replaces and dispenses prescribed corrective lenses for a person's vision correction. Opticians determine the specifications of various eyewear, which will give the necessary correction to a person's eyesight.

EDUCATION: High School diploma or equivalent, eighteen (18) years old with the completion of an apprentice two (2) year program or a two (2) year opticianry school degree and passing a national exam.

VPB REQUIREMENTS: Apply annually online with six (6) to twelve (12) continuing education hours with an initial background check.

Apprentice Optician

Is supervised by an optician or optometrist for one thousand (1,000) hours for two (2) years. The apprentice shall engage in all the duties of a licensed dispensing optician under direct supervision.

EDUCATION: Legal working age with paid on the job training.

VPB REQUIREMENTS: Apply annually with current supervisor agreement.



Ocularist



A professional licensed ocularist is a practitioner engaging in the practice of designing, fabricating and fitting artificial eyes or prostheses associated with the appearance or function of the human eye.

EDUCATION: High School diploma or equivalent, eighteen (18) years old with the completion of an apprentice five (5) year program and passing a national exam.

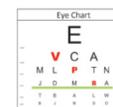
VPB REQUIREMENTS: Apply annually online with four (4) continuing education hours with an initial background check.

Apprentice Ocularist

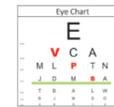
Is supervised by a licensed ocularist, optometrist or physician for five (5) years. The apprentice shall engage in all the duties of a licensed ocularist under direct supervision.

EDUCATION: Legal working age with paid on the job training.

VPB REQUIREMENTS: Apply annually with current supervisor agreement.



Optometrist



A professional licensed doctor of optometry, O.D., examines eyes for both vision and health problems. The doctor corrects refractive errors by prescribing eyeglasses and / or contact lenses.

EDUCATION: College degree plus a doctor of optometry O.D. degree after completing four years of optometry school.

VPB REQUIREMENTS: Apply annually online with twenty five (25) continuing education hours with an initial background check.

Board Duties

The board fulfills numerous duties to make certain that the citizens of the state of Ohio are afforded care from qualified apprentices, ocularists, opticians and optometrists through effectively and efficiently regulating the practices. Duties include licensing ocularists, opticians and optometrists. The board conducts registrations for apprentices, annual license renewals, compliance initiatives, investigating complaints and monitoring. The board provides rule filings and development, comply with public record requests and other legislative and administrative functions.