

**ADOPTED REGULATION OF THE
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY**

LCB File No. R007-25

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~[omitted material]~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: § 1, NRS 636.125 and 636.260.

A REGULATION relating to optometry; revising provisions relating to continuing education requirements for optometrists; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires: (1) the biennial renewal of a license to practice optometry; and (2) a licensee to complete continuing education prescribed by the Nevada State Board of Optometry during the period between renewals of the license. (NRS 636.260) Existing regulations require a licensee to complete continuing education in person, over the Internet or by correspondence or videoconference. (Section 8 of LCB File No. R066-19) This regulation provides that a course of continuing education completed in person includes a course completed synchronously over the Internet or by videoconference. This regulation also lowers from 75 percent to 70 percent the minimum score required on an examination for a course of continuing education that is not completed in person.

Section 1. Section 8 of LCB File No. R066-19 is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 8. 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a licensee must complete at least 40 hours of continuing education during the 2 years immediately preceding the date on which a license is required to be renewed. Not more than 5 hours of the required continuing education may be in the subject of practice management.

2. A licensee who is certified to administer and prescribe pharmaceutical agents must complete at least 50 hours of continuing education during the 2 years immediately preceding the date on which a license must be renewed. At least 30 hours of the required continuing education

must be related to pharmaceutical agents or disease. Not more than 10 hours of the required continuing education may be in the subject of practice management.

3. A licensee who is subject to the requirements of NRS 636.2881 may count the continuing education required by that section as part of the 30 hours of continuing education relating to pharmaceutical agents or disease required by subsection 2.

4. Continuing education may be completed in person, *asynchronously* over the Internet or by correspondence or *asynchronous* videoconference. For continuing education that is not completed in person, the licensee must submit proof that he or she received a score of at least ~~[75]~~ 70 percent on the examination for the course. *As used in this subsection, "in person" includes a course of continuing education completed synchronously over the Internet or by videoconference.*

5. Continuing education will be awarded in 15 minute increments. Instruction time must be rounded to the nearest 15 minutes, except that 50 minutes or more of instruction may be rounded up to the nearest hour. A licensee may not receive credit for more than 10 hours of continuing education during any 24-hour period.

6. The Board will approve continuing education in appropriate subjects that is provided or approved by:

- (a) A school of optometry approved by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education, or its successor organization;
- (b) A regional, state or national optometric association;
- (c) The Council on Optometric Practitioner Education, or its successor organization;

(d) For continuing education completed to satisfy the requirements of NRS 636.2881 or subsection 6 of NRS 636.338, the American Medical Association, or its successor organization, as Category 1 ophthalmology-specific continuing medical education; or

(e) Any ophthalmology residency program that is affiliated with an accredited medical school.

7. The Board will approve continuing education not described in subsection 6 if:

(a) The provider of the continuing education submits to the Board a course syllabus or program and the name of the licensee who will complete the course before the date on which the continuing education is provided or the licensee includes the continuing education on the form for proof of completion of continuing education submitted pursuant to NRS 636.260; and

(b) The Board determines that the training is appropriately rigorous, is provided by a qualified provider and concerns an appropriate subject.

8. The Board will notify a licensee if continuing education submitted for approval pursuant to subsection 7 is not approved.

9. A licensee shall not submit the form for proof of completion of continuing education pursuant to NRS 636.260 until all continuing education required by subsection 1 or 2, as applicable, has been completed.