

Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2014

BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

July 2014



**DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS
AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING**

This Annual Performance Report is presented in accordance with Alaska Statute 08.01.070(1) and Alaska Statute 37.07.080(b). Its purpose is to report the accomplishments, activities, and the past and present needs of the licensing program.

**ALASKA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
FY 2014 ANNUAL REPORT**

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**ALASKA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
FY 2014 ANNUAL REPORT
IDENTIFICATION OF BOARD**

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Date Appointed</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Paul Barney, OD Optometrist	March 1, 2011	March 1, 2015
Forrest Messerschmidt, OD Optometrist	March 1, 2012	March 1, 2016
Eric Lingle Public Member	March 1, 2014	March 1, 2018
Grant Humphreys, OD Optometrist	March 1, 2013	March 1, 2017
Damien Delzer, OD Optometrist	March 1, 2014	March 1, 2018
Immanuel Lewis Public Member	June 20, 2012	March 1, 2014
James C. Graves, OD Optometrist	April 3, 2006	March 1, 2014

ALASKA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
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IDENTIFICATION OF STAFF

Virginia Geary, Licensing Examiner

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Division of Corporation, Business and Professional Learning
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ALASKA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
FY 2014 ANNUAL REPORT
NARRATIVE STATEMENT

Two face to face board meetings and two teleconferences were held during fiscal year 2014

- July 31st, 2013 - Teleconference
- November 1st, 2013 - Anchorage, Alaska
- December 10th, 2013 - Teleconference
- April 4th, 2014 - Juneau, Alaska

Public trust and protection was the primary concern of these meetings. Applicants' licensure applications were reviewed with final voting for those not handled through electronic means. Investigative reports were reviewed as they apply to public complaints and their status. Correspondence regarding continuing education and its application to statute and regulation was routinely reviewed. Correspondence also required review of scope of care issues. These included items such as VER (visual evoked response), ERG (electroretinogram) and Non-surgical Amniotic Membrane Tissue Therapy. Most of these meetings involved discussions regarding HB 84 and HB 187 and their application to Optometry.

HB 84 was signed by Governor Parnell on June 2nd, 2013. This law allows military service, training and education acquired while on active duty to count toward temporary occupational licensure. There were no existing regulations for Optometry regarding temporary military licensure at that time. Temporary licensure for military spouses was proposed as a regulations project. This was discussed, drafted and reviewed. Regulations were sent to public comment in April.

HB 187 was proposed legislation that would allow for a) the consolidation of certain fee types within a given program to reduce handling costs, b) fee collection to balance revenues with expenses over several licensing cycles, and c) the use of general funds to offset the costs of professional licensing investigations and enforcement actions to protect the public. The teleconference on December 10th, 2013 was specifically to review HB 187 and approve a resolution of support from the board. This bill had not passed at the close of session for 2014. It was the hope of the board that with passage of this bill, there would be less volatility in licensing fees in the future. Licensure fees have been a continuing topic of discussion as fees have been required to be continually raised to cover the ongoing budget deficit from previous years.

Senate bill 162 was reviewed with unanimous support from the board. This bill allows Optometrists to prescribe Hydrocodone. This bill reinstates prescribing privileges for Hydrocodone that were in jeopardy from the DEA'S reclassification of Hydrocodone. This bill passed in 2014.

Regulations project was proposed to add the American Academy of Optometry to 12AAC 48.200(b) as an approved continuing education (CE) provider.

As of April 4th, 2014, The Alaska Dept. of Law reported no open investigations.

A Sunset Review on the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Board of Examiners in Optometry was completed, passed by the legislature and signed by the Governor in 2014. One recommendation was made to continue efforts to improve the investigative case management systems integrity and confidentiality. The board's termination date was extended to June 30th, 2022.

Forrest Messerschmidt

ALASKA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
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BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FY 2015

TRAVEL REQUESTS: ranked in order of the board's priority. Provide the best estimates based on past actuals and seasonal trends in travel, such as summer hotel rooms or increased fuel costs. Calculate on full costs and note any third-party fiscal offsets. Expand the tables below as needed.

Board Meetings

Date	Location	# of Board Members	# of Staff	Total Estimated Cost (total of airline, hotel, mileage, M&IE, parking, rental car, taxi, etc.)
10/31/14	Anchorage, AK	5	1	\$3,000.00
4/2015	Juneau, AK	5	1	\$3,200.00

Travel Required to Perform Examinations

Date	Location	# of Board Members	# of Staff	Total Estimated Cost (total of airline, hotel, mileage, M&IE, parking, rental car, taxi, etc.)
N/A				
Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the board:				

Out-Of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

Rank in order of the board's priority. "Reimbursement" refers to payment to cover travel costs. "Direct" refers to an offer by a company to secure travel arrangements on behalf of the board member.

Rank	Date	Location	# of Board Members	# of Staff	Total Estimated Cost		Total Potential Third-Party Offset
					(total of airline, hotel, mileage, M&IE, parking, rental car, taxi, etc.)	Conference Fee	<input type="checkbox"/> Reimbursement <input type="checkbox"/> Direct
	6/21-6/23, 2015	Seattle, WA	1		\$2669.40		
1	Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the board: The ARBO meeting, AOA national meeting and AOA sponsored courses reflect national trends which the board should be proactive in attendance so they have the opportunity to glean the knowledge and requirements to meet future demands in maintaining required national standards. Each year NBEO holds a conference for state regulators and boards. NBEO is the National Board of Examiners in Optometry that oversees the educational requirements and testing of Optometrists in the U.S. During the annual conference a variety of issues facing Optometrists and requirements for licensure are discussed. It is critical for the Optometry Board to stay current with national educational training and testing requirements as well as new and updated practices or challenges facing the profession.						

NON-TRAVEL BUDGET REQUESTS

Dues/Memberships/Resources/Online Training/Teleconferences/Examination Contracts

Provide details of the budgetary request. Break down into specific events, where applicable.

Product or service: Teleconferences – 2 per year	Provider: GCI	Cost per event: \$150.00
Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the board: The Board can discuss issues and topics at hand without the expense of travel to a meeting place.		
Product or service: Professional Organization Fees	Provider: ARBO	Cost per event: \$750.00
Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the board: ARBO is a national organization that links regulators and Optometrists together to maintain national standards of care, practice and licensing requirements.		

**ALASKA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
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 BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FY 2015 CONTINUED**

Other Items with a Fiscal Impact:

Product or service: N/A	Provider:	Cost per event:
Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the board:		

Summary of FY15 Fiscal Requests

Board Meetings	\$6,200.00
Travel for Exams	
Out-Of-State and Additional In-State Travel	\$2669.40
Dues/Memberships/Resources/Online Training/Teleconferences	\$900.00
Total Potential Third-Party Offset	
Other	
Total Requested:	\$9,769.40

Additional information:

**ALASKA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROPOSED LEGISLATION FOR FY 2015**

There is no proposed legislation at this time.

**ALASKA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
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REGULATION RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FY 2015**

There are no regulation recommendations at this time.

ALASKA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
FY 2014 ANNUAL REPORT
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR FY 2015

List the board's FY14 goals and objectives and how they were met:

Goals and Objectives from FY 2014

- 1) Continue regular review of optometry statutes and regulations. This review is necessary to be sure that the laws are adequately protecting the public and properly regulating the modern practice of optometry.
- 2) Make active Alaska licensed optometrists aware of recent amendments to regulation. This was met with regular updates to the Board of Optometry's web page available through the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development / Professional Licensing.
- 3) Continue to meet twice per year, two face to face meetings with teleconferences as needed.
- 4) Consider funding a board member to attend ARBO (Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry)
- 5) Keep informed of and support legislation on the state and federal level concerning patient protection and access to care.
- 6) Continue to support provider non-discrimination language in state and federal legislation.
- 7) Continue to monitor board certification on a national level.
- 8) Encourage and support "as taught" legislation.
- 9) Continue to monitor the definition of use, dispense and sale of prescription and non-prescription pharmaceuticals.
- 10) Continue to monitor the definition of use, dispense and sale of prescription and non-prescription contact lenses.

These were met through discussions at regular board meetings and teleconferences.

List the board's FY15 goals and objectives. Include any strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats, as well as any resources needed:

Goals and Objectives for FY 2015

- 1) Continue regular review of optometry statutes and regulations. This review is necessary to be sure that the laws are adequately protecting the public and properly regulating the modern practice of optometry.
- 2) Make active Alaska licensed optometrists aware of recent amendments to regulation.
- 3) Continue to meet twice per year, two face to face meetings with teleconferences as needed.
- 4) Consider funding a board member to attend ARBO (Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry). Funding has been an issue in the past and will continue to be going forward given the current budget shortfall.
- 5) Keep informed of and support legislation on the state and federal level concerning patient protection and access to care.
- 6) Continue to support provider non-discrimination language in state and federal legislation.
- 7) Continue to monitor board certification on a national level.

- 8) Encourage and support “as taught” legislation.
- 9) Continue to monitor the definition of use, dispense and sale of prescription and non-prescription pharmaceuticals.
- 10) Continue to monitor the definition of use, dispense and sale of prescription and non-prescription contact lenses.
- 11) Work toward eliminating the budget deficit.

**ALASKA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
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SUNSET AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Date of last Legislative Audit: June 30, 2013

Board sunset date: June 30, 2022

Audit Recommendation #1:
DCBPL's Director should continue efforts to improve the investigative case management system's integrity and confidentiality.

Action taken: The Board recommends the Director continue to work with the investigative section to improve investigative caseloads.
Next Steps:
Date completed:

FISCAL YEAR 20____ STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

Program: _____

AS 08. _____

12 AAC _____

Name of Individual Completing Report: _____

Date: _____

FY14 LICENSEES	NEW-ISSUED FY 20____	TOTAL AS OF 6/30/____

A. Current Active Licenses, Endorsements, Permits

List type and if issued by examination or credential, as applicable.

LICENSE TYPE & PROGRAM CODE	Lic. Type Code	Status Code	NEW-ISSUED FY 20____	TOTAL AS OF 6/30/____	LICENSURE BASIS
Example: Civil Engineer - AEL	C	AA	10	250	Exam: 6 Credentials: 4
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
11.					
12.					
13.					
TOTAL					

B. Temporary Licenses

LICENSE TYPE & PROGRAM CODE	Lic. Type Code	Status Code	NEW-ISSUED FY 20____	TOTAL AS OF 6/30/____	NOTES
Example: Physical Therapist - PHY	R	AA	4	24	
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
TOTAL					

C. Current Licenses Issued as Inactive (not lapsed licenses)
 (Only Medical, Chiropractic, CPA, and Real Estate)

LICENSE TYPE & PROGRAM CODE	Lic. Type Code	Status Code	TOTAL AS OF 6/30/____
Example: Salesperson - REC	S	II	64
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
TOTAL			

D. Retired Licenses

CATEGORY & PROGRAM CODE	Lic. Type Code	Status Code	RETIRED DURING FY 20____	TOTAL AS OF 6/30/____	NOTES
Example: Osteopath - MED	O	RR	1	8	
1.					
2.					
3.					
TOTAL					

E. Examination Detail

(List each examination administration separately. Write "See Attached" and attach a separate sheet if necessary.)

EXAM TYPE	LOCATION	DATE	CANDIDATES	NO. PASSED	NO. FAILED
Number of Postponed Exams					
Number of Exam Reviews					

F. Miscellaneous Program Activity

List all instances of fee-related work performed under Centralized Regulations per 12 AAC 02.105 (tracked by each program's fee ticker)

DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
Example: License Verification	62

G. Miscellaneous Program Activity

List all instances of fee-related work performed under the licensing program's regulations that is not included above

DECSRIPTION	TOTAL
Example: Course Approval	16

H. Board Meetings and Teleconferences

DATE	LOCATION (<i>indicate if teleconference</i>)