

Statutes and Regulations **Dispensing Opticians**

December 2019



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY,
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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

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**CHAPTER 71.
DISPENSING OPTICIANS.**

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**ARTICLE 1.
ADMINISTRATION.**

Section

55. Powers and duties

Sec. 08.71.055. Powers and duties. The department shall have the following powers and duties:

- (1) to issue licenses to applicants;
- (2) to renew licenses;
- (3) to hold hearings and order disciplinary sanctions against a person who violates this chapter or the regulations of the department;
- (4) to supply forms for applications, licenses, and other needed documents;
- (5) to keep a record of all proceedings open to the public, including the name of each license applicant and each licensee;
- (6) to approve nonprofit organizations for the distribution and fitting of used eyeglasses;
- (7) to enforce the provisions of this chapter and adopt or amend regulations necessary to make these provisions effective.

**ARTICLE 2.
LICENSING.**

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- 80. License required**
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Sec. 08.71.080. License required. A person may not act as a dispensing optician in the state unless the person is licensed under this chapter. A license shall be issued for (1) the dispensing of contact lenses, or (2) the dispensing of other lenses, eyeglasses, spectacles, artificial eyes, and their appurtenances, or (3) both. The department shall by endorsement on the license designate for which aspect of dispensing opticianry the license is issued.

Sec. 08.71.090. Examination requirement. To be licensed to dispense contact lenses, a person, unless eligible for licensing under AS 08.71.145, shall document to the department that the person has passed the contact lens registry examination offered by the National Contact Lens Examiners with a score acceptable to the department. In order to be licensed to dispense other lenses, eyeglasses, spectacles, artificial eyes, and their appurtenances, a person, unless eligible for licensing under AS 08.71.145, shall document to the department that the person has passed the national opticianry competency examination offered by the American Board of Opticianry with a score acceptable to the department. An applicant for licensure in both areas shall document having received a score acceptable to the department on both examinations. The department shall, by regulation, establish the scores that will be acceptable for the examinations described in this section.

Sec. 08.71.110. Qualifications for licensure. (a) The department may issue a license to a person who

- (1) has had education equivalent to four years attendance at a high school;
- (2) has either

(A) completed at least 1,800 hours of training as an apprentice after registering with the department as an apprentice; or

(B) been engaged for at least 1,800 hours as a practicing optician in good standing in a state, territory, district, or possession of the United States;

(3) has passed the applicable examination required under AS 08.71.090 with a score acceptable to the department;

(4) has passed a course designated in the department's regulations as being acceptable; and

(5) has paid the required license fee.

(b) Graduation from an associate degree program in a recognized school or college of opticianry may be substituted for the experience required by (a)(2) and (4) of this section.

Sec. 08.71.120. Fees. The department shall set fees under AS 08.01.065 for initial license and license renewal.

Sec. 08.71.130. Renewal of license. (a) *[Repealed, Sec. 49 ch 94 SLA 1987.]*

(b) *[Repealed, Sec. 49 ch 94 SLA 1987.]*

(c) If the license remains lapsed for more than one year, the department may require the applicant to retake and successfully pass again the applicable examination or examinations required under AS 08.71.090.

(d) Before a license may be renewed, the licensee shall submit to the department evidence of continuing competence in optical dispensing as prescribed by regulations of the department.

Sec. 08.71.140. Display of license. A licensed dispensing optician shall conspicuously display a personal license issued under this chapter in any place that the licensed dispensing optician transacts business.

Sec. 08.71.145. Licensure by credentials. A person with a valid license as a dispensing optician from another state, territory, district, or possession of the United States with licensing requirements substantially equivalent to or higher than those of this state shall be issued a license under this chapter for those professional areas in which the person is licensed in the other jurisdiction upon payment of any fee and documentation that the department may require by regulation.

Sec. 08.71.160. Dispensing optician's apprentice. (a) A person may be employed by or serve under a licensed physician, optometrist, or dispensing optician as an apprentice for dispensing optician tasks. An apprentice shall register with the department before beginning employment or service as an apprentice, shall be designated as an apprentice in the records of the department, and shall be in training under the regular supervision of a licensed physician, optometrist, or dispensing optician. Notwithstanding AS 08.71.180, a registered apprentice may perform dispensing optician tasks that are delegated by and performed under the regular supervision of the licensed physician, optometrist, or dispensing optician and may use the title "dispensing optician apprentice."

(b) No more than two apprentices may be under the direct supervision of one licensed dispensing optician at the same time.

Sec. 08.71.163. Dispensing optician's assistant. Notwithstanding AS 08.71.180, a person who is not a licensed dispensing optician or a registered apprentice under AS 08.71.160 may perform dispensing optician tasks that are delegated by and performed under the regular supervision of a licensed physician, optometrist, or dispensing optician. The hours spent as an assistant under this section may not be counted toward satisfaction of the training requirement in AS 08.71.110(a), and the assistant may not use a title that includes the word "optician" or "opticianry."

Sec. 08.71.165. Delegation authorized. A licensed physician, optometrist, or dispensing optician may delegate dispensing optician tasks to an apprentice or assistant. The licensee shall regularly supervise the performance of the delegated tasks and retains responsibility for the proper performance of the delegated tasks.

ARTICLE 3. UNLAWFUL ACTS.

Section

170. Prohibited conduct

180. Practicing without a license

Sec. 08.71.170. Prohibited conduct. The department may revoke or suspend the license of a dispensing optician, or the licensee may be reprimanded or otherwise disciplined, when the department finds after a hearing that the licensee

(1) secured a license through deceit, fraud, or intentional misrepresentation;

(2) engaged in deceit, fraud, or intentional misrepresentation in the course of providing professional services or engaging in professional activities;

(3) advertised professional services in a false or misleading manner;

(4) has been convicted of a crime that affects the licensee's ability to continue to practice competently and safely;

- (5) intentionally or negligently engaged in or permitted the performance of patient care by persons under the licensee's supervision that does not conform to minimum professional standards regardless of whether actual injury to the patient occurred;
- (6) continued to practice after becoming unfit due to
 - (A) professional incompetence;
 - (B) addiction to or severe dependency on alcohol or other drugs that impairs the licensee's ability to practice safely;
 - (C) physical or mental disability;
- (7) engaged in lewd or immoral conduct in connection with the delivery of professional service to patients;
- (8) participated in the division, assignment, rebate or refund of fees to a physician or optometrist in consideration of patient referrals;
- (9) advertised the services of any other segment of the healing arts.

Sec. 08.71.180. Practicing without a license. A person may not practice as a dispensing optician without a license issued under this chapter or while the person's license is suspended or revoked. A person who violates this section is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

**ARTICLE 4.
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.**

**Section
200. Contact lenses**

Sec. 08.71.200. Contact lenses. Contact lenses shall be fitted in conjunction with and under the supervision of a licensed physician or an optometrist and with a written contact-lens prescription showing that the prescription may be filled for contact lenses and requiring that the patient return to see the prescribing physician or optometrist. In no case may contact lenses be prepared by neutralizing a person's eyeglasses or spectacles.

**ARTICLE 5.
GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

**Section
230. Exemptions from and limitations on the application of this chapter
240. Definitions**

Sec. 08.71.230. Exemptions from and limitations on the application of this chapter. This chapter may not be construed to

- (1) limit or restrict a licensed physician or optometrist from the practices enumerated in this chapter, and each licensed physician and optometrist has all the rights and privileges that may accrue under this chapter to dispensing opticians licensed under it;
- (2) prohibit an unlicensed person from performing mechanical work upon inert matter in any optical office, laboratory, or shop;
- (3) prohibit an unlicensed person from engaging in the sale of eyeglasses, spectacles, magnifying glasses, goggles, sunglasses, telescopes, binoculars, or any like articles that are completely preassembled and sold only as merchandise;
- (4) authorize or permit a licensee under this chapter to hold out as being able to, or to offer to, or to attempt by any means, to refract or exercise eyes, diagnose, treat, correct, relieve, operate, or prescribe for any human ailment, deficiency, deformity, disease, or injury;
- (5) limit the authority of a nonprofit organization approved by the department to distribute and fit used eyeglasses if the eyeglasses are distributed and fitted free of charge and the fitting of the eyeglasses conforms, to the extent possible, with a written prescription from a licensed physician or optometrist.

Sec. 08.71.240. Definitions. In this chapter,

- (1) "department" means the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development;
- (2) "dispensing optician" means a person who, on written prescription from a licensed physician or optometrist, prepares and dispenses to the intended wearer or person who writes the prescription, original or duplicate lenses, eyeglasses, contact lenses, and appurtenances to them, and interprets, measures, adapts, fits, and adjusts lenses, eyeglasses, contact lenses, and appurtenances to them in accordance with the written prescription, to the face for the aid or correction of visual or ocular anomalies of the human eye;
- (3) "supervision" means the provision of any needed direction, control, consultation, instruction, evaluation, and personal inspection of work being performed.

**CHAPTER 30.
BOARD OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS.**

Article

1. (Repealed)
2. **Examinations and Licensing**
(12 AAC 30.070—12 AAC 30.125)
3. **Continuing Competence**
(12 AAC 30.200—12 AAC 30.220)
4. **General Provisions**
(12 AAC 30.900—12 AAC 30.990)

**ARTICLE 1.
CONTINUING COMPETENCE.**

Section

10. (Repealed)
20. (Repealed)
30. (Repealed)
40. (Repealed)
50. (Repealed)
60. (Repealed)

12 AAC 30.010. APPROVED CONTINUING COMPETENCE EXPERIENCES. *Repealed 2/26/2003.*

12 AAC 30.020. DOCUMENTING CONTINUING COMPETENCE. *Repealed 2/26/2003.*

12 AAC 30.030. DATE OF CONTINUING COMPETENCE. *Repealed 4/29/91.*

12 AAC 30.040. FIELD IN WHICH CONTINUING COMPETENCE IS OBTAINED. *Repealed 4/29/91.*

12 AAC 30.050. CONTINUING COMPETENCE REQUIREMENT. *Repealed 2/26/2003.*

12 AAC 30.060. COMPUTATION OF CONTINUING COMPETENCE HOURS. *Repealed 4/29/91.*

**ARTICLE 2.
EXAMINATIONS AND LICENSING.**

Section

70. **License by examination**
75. **Board-designated course**
80. **Passing score for examination**
90. (Repealed)
100. **License by credentials**
105. **License endorsement**
110. **Apprentice registration**
120. **Apprentice training**
125. **Supervision of apprentice**

12 AAC 30.070. LICENSE BY EXAMINATION. (a) An applicant for a license by examination shall submit

- (1) a completed application on a form provided by the department;
- (2) the application and license fees established in 12 AAC 02.200;
- (3) verification of the training or work experience required by AS 08.71.110 by providing
 - (A) verification of training as described by AS 08.71.110(a)(2)(A) and 12 AAC 30.120, on a form provided by the department, sent directly from the licensed physician, optometrist, or dispensing optician who supervised the application; or
 - (B) verification of work experience described by AS 08.71.110(a)(2)(B), on a form provided by the department;
- (4) verification of passing the applicable examination under AS 08.71.090, sent directly to the department from the American Board of Opticianry or the National Contact Lens Examiners;
- (5) verification that the applicant has passed the applicable course described in 12 AAC 30.075, sent directly from the National Academy of Opticianry or Contact Lens Society of America; and
- (6) a complete authorization for release of records form.

(b) An applicant for a license by examination under this section may submit official transcripts, sent directly to the department from the issuing school or college of opticianry, documenting the degree requirements of AS 08.71.110(b) as a substitute for the requirements of (a)(3) and (5) of this section.

Authority: AS 08.71.055 AS 08.71.110

12 AAC 30.075. APPROVED COURSE. (a) To meet the requirements of AS 08.71.110(a)(4), an applicant for a dispensing optician license to dispense

(1) spectacles shall submit verification of completion of the Ophthalmic Career Progression Program (OCP) sponsored by the National Academy of Opticianry (NAO) or another department-approved program that the department determines is equivalent;

(2) contact lens shall submit verification of completion of the Contact Lens Manual: Volume 1, A Comprehensive Study and Reference Guide, sponsored by the Contact Lens Society of America.

(b) *Repealed 12/25/2019.*

Authority: AS 08.71.055 AS 08.71.110

Editor's note: Information on the Ophthalmic Career Progression Program may be obtained from the National Academy of Opticianry, 8401 Corporate Drive #605, Landover, Maryland 20785; telephone: (800) 229-4828; website at www.nao.org. Information on the Contact Lens Manual: Volume 1, A Comprehensive Study and Reference Guide may be obtained from the Contact Lens Society of America, 2025 Woodland Drive, St. Paul, Minnesota 55125-2998; telephone: (800) 296-9776; e-mail: clsa@clsa.info; website at www.clsa.info.

12 AAC 30.080. PASSING SCORE FOR EXAMINATION. A score of at least 70 percent is considered a passing score for each examination described in AS 08.71.090.

Authority: AS 08.71.055 AS 08.71.090 AS 08.71.110

12 AAC 30.090. EXAMINATION. *Repealed 2/26/2003.*

12 AAC 30.100. LICENSE BY CREDENTIALS. An applicant for a license by credentials shall submit

(1) a completed application on a form provided by the department;

(2) the applicable application and license fees established in 12 AAC 02.200;

(3) verification of a current license to practice as a dispensing optician issued by another licensing jurisdiction that meets the requirements of AS 08.71.145; acceptable verification may include documentation that demonstrates the applicant passed the applicable examination under AS 08.71.090;

(4) *repealed 6/22/2003;*

(5) verification of work experience or training equivalent to that required by AS 08.71.110(a)(2); and

(6) a complete authorization for release of records form.

Authority: AS 08.71.055 AS 08.71.145

12 AAC 30.105. LICENSE ENDORSEMENT. (a) A dispensing optician may add a contact lens endorsement or spectacles endorsement to the dispensing optician's existing current license by submitting

(1) a completed application on a form provided by the department;

(2) the application fee established in 12 AAC 02.200;

(3) verification of having passed the applicable examination described in AS 08.71.090, sent directly to the department from the organization that administered the examination;

(4) documentation of meeting the experience or training requirements required under AS 08.71.110(a)(2), sent directly to the department from the licensed physician, optometrist, or dispensing optician that supervised the applicant; and

(5) verification that the applicant has passed the applicable course described in 12 AAC 30.075 if applying under 12 AAC 30.070, sent directly from the National Academy of Opticianry or the Contact Lens Society of America.

(b) An applicant applying for a dispensing optician license under 12 AAC 30.070 or 12 AAC 30.100 with a combined contact lens and spectacles endorsement shall submit

(1) the applicable application and supporting documents required under 12 AAC 30.070 or 12 AAC 30.100;

(2) verification of having passed both examinations described in AS 08.71.090, sent directly to the department from the organization that administered the examinations; and

(3) documentation of meeting the experience or training requirements in AS 08.71.110(a)(2) for contact lens and spectacles, sent directly to the department by the licensed physician, optometrist, or dispensing optician that supervised the applicant.

(c) An applicant for an endorsement under (a) of this section may submit official transcripts, sent directly from the issuing school or college of opticianry to the department, documenting the degree requirements of AS 08.71.110(b) as a substitute for the requirements of (a)(4) and (5) of this section.

Authority: AS 08.71.080 AS 08.71.110 AS 08.71.145

12 AAC 30.110. APPRENTICE REGISTRATION. (a) To register as an apprentice, an applicant must submit

- (1) a completed application on a form provided by the department;
 - (2) the applicable fees established in 12 AAC 02.200;
 - (3) the supervisor's statement of responsibility that meets the requirements of 12 AAC 30.125, on a form provided by the department, sent directly to the department from the licensed dispensing optician, optometrist, or physician, supervising the apprentice; and
 - (4) a complete authorization for release of records form.
- (b) Except under (c) of this section, no hours of apprenticeship training received before registration will be accepted under AS 08.71.110(a)(2)(A).
- (c) The department will, in its discretion, accept under AS 08.71.110(a)(2)(A) apprenticeship training hours received before registration when those hours are documented at the time of initial registration and are verified by the department, only in those cases when an applicant received training out of state before beginning an apprenticeship in the state.
- (d) The supervisor of an apprentice shall notify the department in writing on a form provided by the department, not later than 30 days after the apprenticeship training is complete or is terminated under that supervisor. The supervisor must state the reason for termination of the apprentice on the form.
- (e) An apprentice shall notify the department, on a form provided by the department, when there is a change in a supervisor and submit the apprentice registration change fee established in 12 AAC 02.200. Training hours under the new supervisor will not be accepted until the form and fees required under this subsection are received by the department.
- (f) *Repealed 12/25/2019.*
- (g) Registration as an apprentice terminates when the apprentice is no longer in an apprenticeship under a supervisor that satisfies the requirements of this section.
- (h) An apprentice's supervisor shall
- (1) possess a current, unrestricted license to practice as a physician, optometrist, or dispensing optician;
 - (2) be employed in the same facility and by the same employer as the apprentice in the capacity of supervisor of the apprentice; and
 - (3) provide regular supervision to the apprentice as described by 12 AAC 30.125(c).
- (i) An applicant for renewal of a registration shall submit a renewal form provided by the department and the renewal fee established in 12 AAC 02.200. The registration form shall be signed by the apprentice's supervisor.

Authority: AS 08.71.055 AS 08.71.160

12 AAC 30.120. APPRENTICE TRAINING. (a) Apprenticeship training under AS 08.71.110 relating to spectacles must include instruction in the following subject areas:

- (1) customer relations, including communication and interaction;
 - (2) knowledge and application of basic optical concepts and principles;
 - (3) knowledge and application of practical anatomy and physiology;
 - (4) knowledge and implications of common ophthalmic disorders;
 - (5) knowledge of frame and lens materials and application of materials based on the selection of ophthalmic products;
 - (6) applicable statutes and regulations relating to the practice of dispensing opticianry in the state;
 - (7) customer instruction on the care and use of ophthalmic products, with emphasis on health and safety;
 - (8) interpretation of prescriptions;
 - (9) proper fitting of spectacles to the customer;
 - (10) selection of spectacles with consideration of the customer's lifestyle, occupation, cosmetic needs, and the availability of ophthalmic products;
 - (11) knowledge and application of instruments and measurements necessary to fit or adjust spectacles to the customer;
 - (12) knowledge and use of optical equipment to verify specifications of optical goods, including a lensometer, calipers, lens clock, and other measuring devices;
 - (13) management skills necessary for record keeping, billing, and the ordering of optical goods and supplies;
 - (14) knowledge and use of aseptic techniques.
- (b) Apprenticeship training under AS 08.71.110 relating to contact lens must include instruction in the following subject areas:
- (1) customer relations, including communication and interaction;
 - (2) knowledge and application of basic optical concepts and principles;
 - (3) knowledge and application of practical anatomy and physiology;
 - (4) knowledge and implications of common ophthalmic disorders;
 - (5) applicable statutes and regulations relating to the practice of dispensing opticianry in the state;
 - (6) interpretation of prescriptions;
 - (7) obtaining and documenting the customer's relevant medical history through oral interview and records;
 - (8) assessment of the technical aspects of the customer's ocular status for contact lens wear by using instruments or other methods to determine appropriate contact lens options;

(9) knowledge of instruments used to determine the customer's contact lens options, including proper calibration of instruments, evaluation of instrument readings and application to the customer's needs;

(10) selection of contact lens material and design based on previously gathered information to conduct diagnostic lens evaluation, if trial fitting is deemed beneficial;

(11) insertion of trial contact lens material and evaluation of subjective and objective findings to determine appropriate lens selection;

(12) determination of contact lens parameters using the results obtained from the diagnostic contact lens trial fitting and evaluation of the objective findings and the customer's subjective responses to fitting so that the appropriate contact lens may be ordered;

(13) knowledge of instruments and recognized standards necessary to verify contact lens parameters by comparing contact lens ordered to assure accuracy;

(14) education of the customer on all aspects of contact lens wear including disinfection, storage, care, maintenance of contact lenses and supplies, and wearing schedules by providing verbal and written instructions and hands on practice with contact lenses to encourage compliance.

(c) *Repealed 2/26/2003.*

(d) *Repealed 2/26/2003.*

(e) *Repealed 2/26/2003.*

Authority: AS 08.71.055 AS 08.71.110 AS 08.71.160

12 AAC 30.125. SUPERVISION OF APPRENTICE. (a) A person who meets the requirements of AS 08.71.160 and 12 AAC 30.110(h) and that will provide regular supervision to an apprentice, must submit to the department a completed form, provided by the department, that includes the

(1) supervisor's name and license number;

(2) supervisor's employer;

(3) apprentice's name;

(4) location where supervision will occur;

(5) date supervision is to begin;

(6) name of an alternate supervisor, if any, who agrees to be an alternate supervisor and meets the requirements of this section.

(b) The supervisor of an apprentice under this section may provide for an alternate supervisor, as described in (a)(6) of this section, who will provide supervision to the apprentice when the supervisor is unavailable.

(c) A supervisor approved under this section to provide regular supervision to an apprentice must

(1) be physically present at the same site as the apprentice being supervised at least once each day, and may not be absent from the site for more than two hours each day, while dispensing optician tasks are being performed by the apprentice;

(2) frequently observe and review the apprentice's performance of tasks;

(3) ensure that the apprentice performs all dispensing optician tasks correctly under the supervision of the supervisor.

(d) If the supervision of an apprentice is terminated, the supervisor shall submit to the department the termination notice required 12 AAC 30.110(d).

Authority: AS 08.71.160 AS 08.71.163 AS 08.71.165

ARTICLE 3. CONTINUING COMPETENCE.

Section

200. Approved continuing competence experiences

210. Documenting continuing competence

220. Continuing competence requirements

12 AAC 30.200. APPROVED CONTINUING COMPETENCE EXPERIENCES. (a) Attendance at a seminar or course conducted by one of the following organizations is accepted as meeting the continuing competence requirements of AS 08.71.130(d) and 12 AAC 30.200 - 12 AAC 30.220:

(1) the Opticians Association of America;

(2) the Contact Lens Society of America;

(3) the American Optometric Association;

(4) the American Academy of Ophthalmology;

(5) *repealed 12/25/2019;*

(6) the Opticians Association of Alaska, Incorporated; or

(7) other recognized professional organizations in the field of opticianry.

(b) If specifically approved by the department, the following educational experiences meet the continuing competence requirements of AS 08.71.130(d) and 12 AAC 30.200 - 12 AAC 30.220:

(1) satisfactory completion of a course conducted by a recognized school of opticianry;

- (2) instruction by a licensed ophthalmologist, optometrist, dispensing optician, or optical manufacturer outside of the normal work situation, if there are at least three students in attendance; or
- (3) acting as an instructor of opticianry outside the normal work situation, if there are at least three students in attendance.
- (c) Credit for a course not actually taken or graded is not acceptable for continuing competence credit.

Authority: AS 08.71.055 AS 08.71.130

12 AAC 30.210. DOCUMENTING CONTINUING COMPETENCE. (a) An applicant for license renewal shall submit, on a renewal form provided by the department, a signed statement that the applicant has complied with the continuing competence requirements of 12 AAC 30.220.

(b) An applicant for renewal is responsible for maintaining adequate and detailed records of completed continuing competence courses, seminars, or experiences and shall make them available to the department upon request in accordance with 12 AAC 02.960.

(c) Falsification of any written evidence submitted to the department under this section is grounds for license revocation or suspension under AS 08.71.170.

(d) A licensee must obtain a certificate from a continuing competence provider described in 12 AAC 30.200, as verification of that licensee’s completion of all required elements of a course of study. The certificate must meet the requirements of 12 AAC 02.960(e), and provide the aspect of opticianry for which the activity pertains. If the activity pertains to more than one aspect of opticianry, the certificate must provide for how the time in class was divided, to the nearest quarter hour.

Authority: AS 08.71.055 AS 08.71.130

12 AAC 30.220. CONTINUING COMPETENCE REQUIREMENTS. (a) An applicant for renewal of a dispensing optician license shall complete at least 10 hours of continuing competence acceptable to the department under this chapter during the concluding licensing period for each aspect of dispensing opticianry in which the applicant is licensed.

(b) Continuing competence experiences must relate directly to the aspect of dispensing opticianry for which the applicant is licensed. However, for each biennial renewal, no more than two hours may be in the aspect for which the applicant is not licensed and no more than two hours may be in business management.

(c) *Repealed 12/25/2019.*

(d) One quarter-hour of academic credit from a college or university course directly related to optics, anatomy, or physiology of the eye constitutes five hours of continuing competence.

(e) One semester-hour of academic credit from a college or university course directly related to optics, anatomy, or physiology of the eye constitutes 10 hours of continuing competence.

(f) A dispensing optician who is applying for license renewal for the first time shall certify having completed at least five contact hours of continuing education for each aspect of dispensing opticianry in which the applicant is licensed, for each complete calendar year that the applicant was licensed during the concluding licensing period.

Authority: AS 08.71.080 AS 08.71.130

**ARTICLE 4.
GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

Section

- 900. Verifications**
- 905. License renewal and reinstatement**
- 915. Current address**
- 990. Definitions**

12 AAC 30.900. VERIFICATIONS. Verification of current licensure, examinations or training of an applicant as required in 12 AAC 30.070—12 AAC 30.125, shall be certified or notarized documentation supplied to the department by

- (1) another jurisdiction’s licensing board; or
- (2) when applicable, a licensed supervisor.

Authority: AS 08.71.055 AS 08.71.130 AS 08.71.145
AS 08.71.110

12 AAC 30.905. LICENSE RENEWAL AND REINSTATEMENT. (a) An applicant for renewal of a dispensing optician license shall submit

- (1) a completed renewal application;
- (2) the license renewal fee established in 12 AAC 30.200; and
- (3) documentation that the applicant has met the continuing competence requirements of 12 AAC 30.200 - 12 AAC

30.220 during the concluding license period.

(b) The department will reinstate a dispensing optician license that has lapsed at least 60 days but less than five years if the applicant submits

- (1) a completed renewal application;
- (2) the license renewal fee established in 12 AAC 30.200; and
- (3) evidence of completion of the continuing competence requirements of 12 AAC 30.200 – 12 AC 30.210 that would have been required to maintain a current license for the entire period the license has been lapsed.

Authority: AS 08.01.100 AS 08.71.055 AS 08.71.130

12 AAC 30.915. CURRENT ADDRESS. A licensee or apprentice shall maintain a current, valid mailing address on file with the division at all times. The latest mailing address on file for a current or lapsed license or apprentice registration is the address of the licensee or apprentice for official communication, notifications, and service of legal process.

Authority: AS 08.71.055

12 AAC 30.990. DEFINITIONS. (a) In AS 08.71 and this chapter, unless the context requires otherwise,

(1) "apprentice" means a novice in the field of opticianry who is working towards completion of the requirements in AS 08.71.110 under the regular supervision of a supervisor who meets the requirements of AS 08.71.160, 12 AAC 30.110(h), and 12 AAC 30.125;

(2) *repealed 12/25/2019*;

(3) "contact lens" means a lens designed for the correction or relief of visual defects or for cosmetic purposes, that is placed on the anterior surface of the cornea;

(4) "contact lens parameters" means a listing of those parameters necessary to produce a duplicate contact lens;

(5) "contact-lens prescription" means a written authorization to fit for contact lenses and includes the dioptric power of spheres, cylinders, and axis, and instructs the patient to return for a follow up visit;

(7) "department" means the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development;

(7) "division" means the division of corporations, business and professional licensing in the department;

(8) "eyeglasses" has the same meaning given the term "spectacles" in this section;

(9) "jurisdiction" means a licensing board or administrative agency of this state, another state, territory, or possession of the United States, responsible for issuing licenses and maintaining records for dispensing opticians;

(10) "spectacles" means an external prosthetic appliance for the correction or relief of an optical or visual defect;

(11) "supervision" has the same meaning as in AS 08.71.240;

(12) "supervisor" means a person who meets the requirements of AS 08.71.160, 12 AAC 30.110(h), and 12 AAC 30.125 to supervise an apprentice.

(b) For the purposes of AS 08.71.170, "minimum professional standards" includes

(1) taking any necessary and correct measurements for placement of pupillary distance, segments, optical centers, and prism for each pair of spectacles dispensed; and

(2) verifying that each pair of spectacles and contact lens dispensed meets the specifications and parameters for the prescription, using the necessary optical equipment.

Authority: AS 08.71.055 AS 08.71.100 AS 08.71.130
AS 08.71.090 AS 08.71.110 AS 08.71.145