

The South Carolina Association of Opticians



Insight

Spring 2021 Newsletter

Notice from the SC Board of Examiners in Opticianry

Due to the current public health emergency, the South Carolina Board of Examiners in Opticianry has approved allowing Board-approved online and/or Board-approved in-person continuing education hours to meet the licensed optician and registered apprentice renewal requirements. *This is being allowed for the current renewal cycle/year only.* In-person meetings will still be held by the Association for those who wish to attend. Please visit the Board website for additional information: <https://llr.sc.gov/opti/ce.aspx>

- The criteria for course approval by South Carolina is as follows:
- Courses and speakers must be ABO/NCLE approved.
- ABO/NCLE certificates of attendance must be awarded.
- Opticianry and contact lens courses must be technical in content.
- One course hour of practice or retail management will be approved.
- Course content must be generic in nature and presented in a manner that does not promote the sales or marketing of one product or one service or a business.
- 50 minutes of education equals one hour of credit.
- No law courses from other states will be approved for South Carolina.



The SCAO has been commended for the diligence shown in the setup of the inperson Continuing meetings in Columbia. Great care was taken to ensure all state and national protocols were followed.

We can be sure that this will continue for the next series of meetings scheduled.

For information on the next meetings see page 2.

Continuing Education

The May 1st & 2nd CE meetings are now closed.

The June 26th & 27th meetings are open and have availability both days.

Apprentice CEs are still available at the June 27th meeting.

All meetings are at the Embassy Suites in Columbia.

Register by going to the SCAO website: scoptician.org

IMPORTANT!!!

The CEs offered on May 1st and 2nd are the same five CEs each day. A different set of CEs will be offered on June 26th and 27th (again, the same five CEs each day). If you need ten CEs in total, you'll need to get five in May and five in June.



From the messy desk of the editor:

Get involved and you'll be surprised at the degree of concern your Association has in so many areas.

Bluntly, our profession, like all others, is either growing or going downhill. We need **you**, our younger members, to become the new leaders of tomorrow. Make a decision now, to make a difference in the near future. Ask how to get involved as the opportunities are there and waiting.

The future of our Opticianry licenses, just as many of the other licensed professions and occupations, is being questioned by current and upcoming political agendas as expedient ways to achieve government regulatory cost cutting and simplifying measures for the public. (Include lots of lobbying by big money)

Not too many years ago SC Opticianry became an independent licensing entity, governed by a Board of Examiners, for the protection of the public from these very threats. The Board enforces that assigned role of protectors through requiring continual pertinent educations creating a strong, knowledgeable, educated and dedicated group of individuals. It administers our regulations governing our legal and ethical responsibilities to the public at large.

Our State Association supports those very individuals through providing opportunities for the required continued education. We as individual opticians should recognize our responsibilities and the need for continued licensure by strengthening our education and gaining knowledge of our opticianry laws. This includes grasping the different roles of the SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, the SC Board of Examiners in Opticianry and the SC Association of Opticians.

Respond! Agree! Argue! Disagree! Talk about it! Get Involved! CARE!

Our association would like to note the passing of Phil Silverman, and offer our condolences to the family. Information for family requests can be found at :
www.garrisonopticians.com

The South Carolina Association of Opticians

The South Carolina Association of Opticians is here for you, the optician. Its goal is to organize, promote, educate and encourage growth, professionalism and the progress of opticians. The association strives to promote and protect our profession and to ensure our continued licensure through the current and future challenges of deregulation. One way to achieve this is to support strong educational requirements.

The Association has no direct relationship with the SC Board of Examiners in Opticianry other than it has taken the responsibility of offering SCBEO approved continuing education courses that meet the Board requirements for continued licensure.

The South Carolina Board of Examiners in Opticianry

The South Carolina Board of Examiners in Opticianry is a state government appointed board whose purpose is to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the public. This protection includes situations within the state and within the ability of the board to act when public safety may be compromised.

It is the position of many of our opticians that the most effective way to “protect the public welfare” is through the continuation and strengthening of strong educational requirements and through promoting continued advancement of our professionalism.

Check out: www.llr.state.sc.us/POL/Opticians/
and your SCAO site www.scoptician.org

We are required to get our continuing education hours every year.

**The SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulations collects
our licensing fees every other year.**

**Let me invite you to become part on the solution-
We need you!**

Wondering what ANSI tolerances apply to compensated (optimized free-form) lenses? From a discussion at the Lens Technical Committee meeting of The Vision Council, tolerances are applied to the compensated lens power, not the doctor’s written prescription that was ordered.

Remember, the compensated lens power makes the effective power of the lens equal to the written prescription in the way that the lenses are positioned in front of the eyes considering vertex, tilt and wrap angles. Therefore, using the lab invoice, find the compensated lens power and when checking in lenses, apply the latest of ANSI Z80.1 – 2015 to those numbers.

For a summary of tolerances see The Vision Council, thevisioncouncil.org. Mark Mattison-Shupnick, ABOM