

OPTOMETRIST (OD)

Licensing Authority	<p>Karla Hoover Optometry Board Iowa Department of Public Health Lucas State Office Bldg 5th Fl 321 E 12th St Des Moines IA 50319-0075 Phone: (515) 281-4287 Fax: (515) 281-3121 E-mail: khoover@idph.state.ia.us</p>
Legal Authority	<p>Code of Iowa, Chapter 154; Iowa Administrative Code 645, Chapter 179-184</p>
Job Description	<p>Optometrists measure the visual power of the human eye; prescribe and adapt lenses, prisms and contact lenses; and, employ visual training or ocular exercise to aid, relieve or correct people's vision. They treat diseases of the eye by using topical pharmaceutical agents or oral medicines and by removing superficial foreign bodies from the human eye and adnexa.</p>
Education & Experience Required	<p>To practice optometry in Iowa, a person must have a high school diploma and graduate from a school or college of optometry accredited by a regional or professional accreditation organization that is recognized or approved by the council on post-secondary accreditation of the U.S. Department of Education and approved by the Iowa Board of Optometry Examiners, and pass all parts of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) exam.</p> <p>A licensee may change a license from diagnostically certified to therapeutically certified by taking 40 hours of didactic education and 60 hours of approved clinical training in the examination, diagnosis, and treatment of conditions of the human eye and adnexa and an additional 44 hours of education with an emphasis on treatment and management of glaucoma and the use of oral pharmaceutical agents for treatment and management of ocular disease from an accredited regional or professional institution.</p> <p>A licensee who regularly examines, attends, counsels or treats children or adults in Iowa is required to complete at least two hours of training every five years related to the identification and reporting of child/dependent adult abuse. At the time of renewal, the licensee is required to document completion of the training requirements.</p> <p>Applicants who hold licenses in other states must apply for an Iowa license before practicing their profession in Iowa.</p>
Continuing Education	<p>Fifty hours of continuing education are required biennially for license renewal.</p>
Examination	<p>An applicant must arrange to take and pass all parts of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) examination prior to applying for licensure.</p>

Fees	Application: \$250 by exam \$250 by endorsement Duration: Two years Renewal: \$120 Exam: Arranged by applicant
SOC Code, Title & Avg. Hourly Wage	29-1041 – Optometrists (\$47.21)
Number of Licenses Issued	Total number of licenses active as of December 31, 2003: 595 2002: 555 2001: 623
For Additional Information	<p>Iowa Department of Public Health Web site: www.idph.state.ia.us/licensure</p> <p>American Optometric Association 243 N Lindbergh Blvd #1 St Louis MO 63141-7881 Phone: (202) 712-9040 or (800) 365-2219 FAX: (314) 991-4101 www.aoanet.org</p> <p>Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry 6110 Executive Blvd Ste 690 Rockville MD 20852</p> <p>Iowa Optometric Association 1454 30th St Ste 204 West Des Moines IA 50266-1312 Phone: (515) 222-5679 or (800) 444-1772 FAX: (515) 222-9073 www.iowaoptometry.org</p> <p>National Board of Examiners in Optometry Phone: (800) 969-3926</p>