

Registration Pathways from accredited prescribed qualifications

Each registration pathway lists accredited programmes leading to registration in a specific scope of practice.

Registration Pathway 1 – “Optometrist”

Registration in the Optometrist Scope of Practice.

Prescribed Qualifications

- Bachelor of Optometry, Auckland University, New Zealand (from 2006 onwards)
- Bachelor of Vision Science & Master of Optometry, Deakin University, Australia
- Bachelor of Medical Science (Vision Science) & Master of Optometry, Flinders University, Australia
- Bachelor of Vision Science and Master of Optometry, Queensland University of Technology, Australia
- Doctor of Optometry, University of Melbourne, Australia
- Bachelor of Vision Science and Masters of Clinical Optometry, University of New South Wales, Australia
- Bachelor of Vision Science / Master of Optometry, University of Canberra, Australia
- The applicant holds the qualification Bachelor of Optometry/Bachelor of Science awarded by the University of New South Wales before 2021 (from 2010 onwards), or the qualification Bachelor of Vision Science and Master of Clinical Optometry awarded by the University of New South Wales (from 2018 onwards)
- A pass in both the Optometry Council of Australia and New Zealand (OCANZ) Competency in Optometry Examination (COE) and the Assessment of Competence in Ocular Therapeutics (ACOT)
- A pass in both the OCANZ COE and a pass in an OCANZ-accredited ocular therapeutics qualification. These qualifications currently include:
 - Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics, Australian College of Optometry, Australia
 - Graduate Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics, Queensland University of Technology, Australia
 - Graduate Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics, University of New South Wales, Australia.

Registration Pathway 2 – “Optometrist Educator”

Registration pathway for those who do not have one of the “Registration Pathway 1” qualifications, who will be working solely in an educational institution, and who have not yet completed post-graduate education in ocular therapeutics.

Registration in the Optometrist Scope of Practice, with a condition applied that indicates the practitioner may only practise in an educational institution and is prohibited from prescribing medicines.

Prescribed Qualifications

1. The applicant holds BAplSc (Optometry) or BSc (Optometry) from the University of Melbourne

OR

2. The applicant holds a listed (non-bridging) qualification from one of the schools of optometry in the United Kingdom listed below:

- BSc/BSc Hons in Optometry or BSc/BSc Hons in Ophthalmic Optics, University of Aston
- BSc/BSc Hons in Optometry (Ophthalmic Optics) or BSc/BSc Hons in Ophthalmic Optics, University of Bradford
- BSc/BSc Hons in Optometry, Cardiff University
- BSc/BSc Hons in Optometry or BSc/BSc Hons in Ophthalmic Optics, University of Wales College of Cardiff
- BSc/BSc Hons in Optometry or BSc/BSc Hons in Ophthalmic Optics, The City University London
- BSc/BSc Hons in Optometry or BSc/BSc Hons in Ophthalmic Optics, Glasgow
- Caledonian University
- BSc/BSc Hons in Optometry or BSc/BSc Hons in Ophthalmic Optics, University of Manchester
- Manchester Institute of Science and Technology
- Bachelor of Optometry, Anglia Polytechnic University
- BSc/BSc Hons in Optometry, University of Ulster
- BSc/BSc Hons in Ophthalmic Optics, University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology

AND

The applicant has passed the Pre-registration year and Professional Qualifying Examination conducted by the College of Optometry or its equivalent within a four-year degree;

OR

3. The applicant holds a Doctor of Optometry qualification from one of the schools of optometry in the United States of America and Canada listed below:

- Illinois College of Optometry
- Indiana University
- Inter American University of Puerto Rico
- Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris State University
- New England College of Optometry
- Northeastern State University
- Nova Southeastern University

- The Ohio State University
- Pacific University
- Pennsylvania College of Optometry
- Southern California College of Optometry
- Southern College of Optometry
- State University of New York
- University of Alabama at Birmingham
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of Missouri, St. Louis
- University of Houston
- University of Waterloo
- University of Montreal

OR

4. The applicant holds a BSc Hons (Optometry) from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

Registration Pathway 3 – “Optometrist Educator – Prescriber”

Registration in the Optometrist Scope of Practice, with a condition applied that indicates the practitioner may only practice in an educational institution.

Registration pathway for those who have one of the “Registration Pathway 2” qualifications, who will be working solely in an educational institution, and who *have* completed post-graduate education in ocular therapeutics.

- The applicant holds a prescribed qualification listed under “Registration Pathway 2” above

AND

- The applicant has completed a Board-accredited therapeutics qualification.

Registration Pathway 4 – “Provisional Optometrist”

Registration in the Provisional Optometrist Scope of Practice, with a condition applied that indicates the practitioner must practise under supervision and is in the process of completing Board-accredited training to prescribe therapeutic medicines.

Registration pathway for those who have a pass in the Optometry Council of Australia and New Zealand (OCANZ) Competency in Optometry Examination, and who are in the process of completing a Board-accredited therapeutics qualification.

Prescribed Qualification

- A pass in the Optometry Council of Australia and New Zealand (OCANZ) Competency in Optometry Examination.

Registration Pathway 5 – “Dispensing Optician”

Registration in the Dispensing Optician Scope of Practice.

Prescribed Qualifications

- The applicant holds the qualification Certificate IV in Optical Dispensing, awarded by the New South Wales Technical and Further Education Commission, or proof of eligibility to graduate from this course, and has submitted a completed and signed record of training book showing evidence of the completion of a minimum of 800 hours of practical experience as specified in the record of training book, within two years of qualification or a period otherwise approved by the Board, **OR**
- The applicant holds the qualification Certificate IV in Optical Dispensing, awarded by the Australasian College of Optical Dispensing, or proof of eligibility to graduate from this course, and has submitted a completed and signed record of training book showing evidence of the completion of a minimum of 800 hours of practical experience as specified in the Board’s record of training book, within two years of qualification or a period otherwise approved by the Board, **OR**
- The applicant holds the qualification FBDO (UK), **OR**
- The applicant holds the qualification FBDO (Overseas), and has submitted a completed and signed record of training book showing evidence of the completion of a minimum of 800 hours of practical experience, within two years of qualification or a period otherwise approved by the Board (Pathway 5 – “Dispensing Optician”), **OR**
- The applicant holds the qualification Certificate IV in Optical Dispensing awarded by the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology obtained between 31 May 2009 and 15 September 2022, and has proof they completed the ‘Perform Edge and Fit’ module as part of the qualification, and has submitted a completed and signed record of training book showing evidence of the completion of a minimum of 800 hours of practical experience as specified in the record of training book, within two years of qualification or a period otherwise approved by the Board, **OR**
- The applicant has passed an optical dispensing examination approved by the board (Pathway 5 – “Dispensing Optician”).

Registration Pathway 6 – “Specialist Optometrist – Ophthalmic Laser Surgeries”

The prescribed qualifications for the registration pathway in the Specialist Optometrist Scope of Practice – Ophthalmic Laser Surgeries to include the following:

- To hold registration in the Optometrist Scope of Practice and not be subject to any conditions.
- To have worked in a hospital ophthalmology department for a minimum of three years with at least 400 hours as a clinician in a Board-approved clinic (as applies).
- To have demonstrated their understanding and comprehensive knowledge in the following specified areas of competence for the safe delivery of ophthalmic laser surgeries to the satisfaction of their supervising ophthalmologist:
 - Comprehensive knowledge of the relevant anatomy and physiology of the eye and adnexa

- Knowledge of the physics of light and laser, and the penetration of light through ocular tissues
 - An understanding of the interaction of light and living tissue including thermal effects, photocoagulative effects, photoablative effects and photodisruptive effects
 - Knowledge of the wavelengths and powers utilised in ophthalmic lasers for the specific surgery
 - Knowledge of required sterile techniques for performing laser surgery
 - Knowledge of surgical procedure and specialised equipment
 - Knowledge of the risks and benefits for each surgery
 - Knowledge of appropriate management plans for adverse outcomes.
- To have satisfactorily observed a minimum of 20 Nd:YAG capsulotomies and/or Nd:YAG laser periphery iridotomies (as applies) being performed by their supervising ophthalmologist, attested to by their supervising ophthalmologist.
 - To have satisfactorily and independently performed a minimum of 20 Nd:YAG capsulotomies and/or 10 Nd:YAG laser periphery iridotomies (as applies) under the supervision of their supervising ophthalmologist, attested to by their supervising ophthalmologist.

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