

**CHAPTER 1004**  
**REGULATION OF OPTOMETRY**  
*S.F. 2120*

**AN ACT** relating to the practice of optometry.

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

Section 1. Section 147.108, subsection 2, Code 2011, is amended to read as follows:

2. After contact lenses have been adequately adapted and the patient released from initial follow-up care by a person licensed under chapter 148 or 154, the patient may request a copy, at no cost, of the contact lens prescription from that licensed person. A person licensed under chapter 148 or 154 shall not withhold a contact lens prescription after the requirements of this section have been met. The prescription, at the option of the prescriber, may be given orally only to a person who is actively practicing and licensed under chapter 148, 154, or 155A. The contact lens prescription shall contain an expiration date, at the discretion of the prescriber, but not to exceed eighteen months. The contact lens prescription shall contain the necessary requirements of the ophthalmic lens, and the prescription validation requirements as defined by rules adopted pursuant to this section. The prescription may contain adapting and material guidelines and may also contain specific instructions for use by the patient. For the purpose of this section, “*ophthalmic lens*” means one which has been fabricated to fill the requirements of a particular contact lens prescription, including pharmaceutical-delivering contact lenses as defined in section 154.1, subsection 4 3.

Sec. 2. Section 154.1, Code 2011, is amended to read as follows:

**154.1 Board defined — optometry — ~~diagnostically certified licensed optometrists — therapeutically certified optometrists licensed optometrists.~~**

1. As used in this chapter, “*board*” means the board of optometry created under chapter 147.

2. For the purpose of this subtitle, the following classes of persons shall be deemed to be engaged in the practice of optometry:

a. Persons employing any means ~~other than the use of drugs, medicine, or surgery~~ for the measurement of the visual power and visual efficiency of the human eye; persons engaged in the prescribing and adapting of lenses, prisms, and contact lenses; and persons engaged in the using or employing of visual training or ocular exercise for the aid, relief, or correction of vision; and persons employing the use of medicines and procedures for the purposes of diagnosis and treatment of diseases or conditions of the eye and adnexa.

b. Persons who allow the public to use any mechanical device for a purpose described in paragraph “a”.

c. Persons who publicly profess to be optometrists and to assume the duties incident to the profession.

~~3. Diagnostically certified licensed optometrists may employ cycloplegics, mydriatics, and topical anesthetics as diagnostic agents topically applied to determine the condition of the human eye for proper optometric practice or referral for treatment to a person licensed under chapter 148. A diagnostically certified licensed optometrist is an optometrist who is licensed to practice optometry in this state and who is certified by the board to use diagnostic agents.~~

4. ~~3.~~ a. Therapeutically certified optometrists An optometrist licensed under this chapter may employ all diagnostic and therapeutic pharmaceutical agents for the purpose of diagnosis and treatment of conditions of the human eye and adnexa pursuant to this subsection, excluding the use of injections other than to counteract an anaphylactic reaction, and notwithstanding section 147.107, may without charge supply any of the above pharmaceuticals to commence a course of therapy. A licensed optometrist may perform minor surgical procedures and use medications for the diagnosis and treatment of diseases, disorders, and conditions of the eye and adnexa. A license to practice optometry under this chapter does not authorize the performance of surgical procedures which require the use of injectable or general anesthesia, moderate sedation, penetration of the globe, or the use of ophthalmic lasers for the purpose of ophthalmic surgery within or upon the globe.

The removal of pterygia and Salzmann's nodules, incisional corneal refractive surgery, and strabismus surgery are prohibited.

~~b. Therapeutically certified optometrists~~ A licensed optometrist may employ and, notwithstanding section 147.107, supply pharmaceutical-delivering contact lenses for the purpose of treatment of conditions of the human eye and adnexa. For purposes of this paragraph, "pharmaceutical-delivering contact lenses" means contact lenses that contain one or more therapeutic pharmaceutical agents authorized for employment by this section for the purpose of treatment of conditions of the human eye and adnexa and that deliver such agents into the wearer's eye.

~~c. Therapeutically certified optometrists~~ A licensed optometrist may prescribe oral steroids for a period not to exceed fourteen days without consultation with a physician. ~~Therapeutically certified optometrists shall not prescribe oral Imuran or oral Methotrexate.~~

~~d. Therapeutically certified optometrists~~ A licensed optometrist may be authorized, where reasonable and appropriate, by rule of the board, to employ new diagnostic and therapeutic pharmaceutical agents approved by the United States food and drug administration on or after July 1, 2002, for the diagnosis and treatment of the human eye and adnexa.

~~e. The board shall is not be required to adopt rules relating to topical pharmaceutical agents, oral antimicrobial agents, oral antihistamines, oral antiglaucoma agents, and oral analgesic agents.~~ Superficial A licensed optometrist may remove superficial foreign bodies may be removed from the human eye and adnexa.

~~f. The therapeutic efforts of a therapeutically certified licensed optometrist are intended for the purpose of examination, diagnosis, and treatment of visual defects, abnormal conditions, and diseases of the human eye and adnexa, for proper optometric practice or referral for consultation or treatment to persons licensed under chapter 148.~~

~~g. A therapeutically certified licensed optometrist is an optometrist who is licensed to practice optometry in this state and who is certified by the board to use the agents and procedures authorized pursuant to this subsection.~~

~~5. 4. Beginning July 1, 2012, all licensed optometrists shall meet requirements established by the board by rule to employ diagnostic and therapeutic pharmaceutical agents for the practice of optometry. All licensees practicing optometry in this state shall have demonstrated qualifications and obtained certification to use diagnostic and therapeutic pharmaceutical agents as a condition of license renewal.~~

Sec. 3. Section 154.10, Code 2011, is amended to read as follows:

**154.10 Standard of care.**

~~1. A diagnostically certified licensed optometrist employing diagnostic pharmaceutical agents as authorized by section 154.1 shall be held to the same standard of care in the use of such agents and in diagnosis as is common to persons licensed under chapter 148 in this state.~~

~~2. A therapeutically certified person licensed as an optometrist employing pharmaceutical agents as authorized by section 154.1 pursuant to this chapter shall be held to the same standard of care in the use of such agents and in diagnosis and treatment as is common to persons licensed under chapter 148 in this state.~~

Sec. 4. Section 155A.21, subsection 2, Code 2011, is amended to read as follows:

2. Subsection 1 does not apply to a licensed pharmacy, licensed wholesaler, physician, veterinarian, dentist, podiatric physician, ~~therapeutically certified optometrist~~, advanced registered nurse practitioner, physician assistant, a nurse acting under the direction of a physician, or the board of pharmacy, its officers, agents, inspectors, and representatives, or to a common carrier, manufacturer's representative, or messenger when transporting the drug or device in the same unbroken package in which the drug or device was delivered to that person for transportation.

Approved February 22, 2012