

OPTOMETRY

Footnotes

Enforcement, § 147.87, 147.90, 147.92

Penalty, § 147.86

154.1 Optometry certified licensed optometrists therapeutically certified optometrists.

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

1. 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; the prescribing and adapting of lenses, prisms and contact lenses, and the using or employing of visual training or ocular exercise, for the aid, relief or correction of vision.
2. Persons who allow the public to use any mechanical device for such purpose.
3. Persons who publicly profess to be optometrists and to assume the duties incident to said profession.

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 or 150A. A certified licensed optometrist is an optometrist who is licensed to practice optometry in this state and who is certified by the board of optometry examiners to use diagnostic agents. A certified licensed optometrist shall be provided with a distinctive certificate by the board which shall be displayed for viewing by the patients of the optometrist.

Therapeutically certified optometrists 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 paragraph, 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. Therapeutically certified optometrists may prescribe oral steroids for a period not to exceed fourteen days without consultation with a primary care physician. Therapeutically certified optometrists shall not prescribe oral Imuran or oral Methotrexate. Therapeutically certified optometrists 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. The board shall not be required to adopt rules relating to topical pharmaceutical agents, oral antimicrobial agents, oral antihistamines, oral antiglaucoma agents, and oral analgesic agents. Superficial foreign bodies may be removed from the human eye and adnexa. The therapeutic efforts of a therapeutically certified 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 or 150A. A therapeutically certified optometrist is an optometrist who is licensed to practice optometry in this state and who is certified by the board of optometry examiners to use the agents and procedures authorized pursuant to this paragraph. A therapeutically certified optometrist shall be provided with a distinctive certificate by the board which shall be displayed for viewing by the patients of the optometrist.

[S13, § 2583-g; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, § **2574**; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, § 154.1]

85 Acts, ch 248, § 1; 87 Acts, ch 119, § 1; 91 Acts, ch 9, §1; 2002 Acts, ch 1026, §1

154.2 Scope of chapter.

This chapter shall not be construed to include the following classes:

1. Merchants or dealers who sell glasses as merchandise in an established place of business and who do not profess to be optometrists or practice optometry as herein defined.
2. Licensed physicians and surgeons.

[S13, § 2583-q; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, § **2575**; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, § 154.2]

154.3 License.

1. Every applicant for a license to practice optometry shall:

a. Present satisfactory evidence of a preliminary education equivalent to at least four years study in an accredited high school or other secondary school.

b. Present a diploma from an accredited school of optometry.

c. Pass an examination prescribed by the optometry examiners in the subjects of physiology of the eye, optical physics, anatomy of the eye, ophthalmology, and practical optometry.

2. A person applying to be licensed as an optometrist after January 1, 1980, shall also apply to be a certified licensed optometrist and shall, in addition to satisfactorily completing all requirements for a license to practice optometry, satisfactorily complete a course consisting of at least one hundred contact hours in pharmacology and receive clinical training as it applies to optometry with particular emphasis on the topical application of diagnostic agents to the human eye for the purpose of examination of the human eye, and the diagnosis of conditions of the human eye, at an institution accredited by a regional or professional accreditation organization which is recognized or approved by the council on postsecondary accreditation or the United States office of education.

3. A person licensed as an optometrist prior to January 1, 1980 who applies to be a certified licensed optometrist shall first satisfactorily complete a course consisting of at least one hundred contact hours in pharmacology as it applies to optometry including clinical training as it applies to optometry with particular emphasis on the topical application of diagnostic agents to the human eye and possible adverse reactions thereto, for the purpose of examination of the human eye and the diagnosis of conditions of the human eye, provided by an institution accredited by a regional or professional accreditation organization which is recognized or approved by the council on postsecondary accreditation or the United States office of education, and approved by the board of optometry examiners.

4. In addition to the examination required by subsection 1, paragraph "c", a person applying to be a certified licensed optometrist shall also pass an examination prescribed by the optometry examiners in the subjects of physiology and pathology appropriate to the use of diagnostic pharmaceutical agents and diagnosis of conditions of the human eye, and pharmacology including systemic effects of ophthalmic diagnostic pharmaceutical agents and the possible adverse reactions thereto, authorized for use by optometrists by section 154.1.

5. A person applying to be licensed as an optometrist after January 1, 1986, shall also apply to be a therapeutically certified optometrist and shall, in addition to satisfactorily completing all requirements for a license to practice optometry, satisfactorily complete a course as defined by rule of the state board of optometry examiners with particular emphasis on the examination, diagnosis and treatment of conditions of the human eye and adnexa provided by an institution accredited by a regional or professional accreditation organization which is recognized or approved by the council on postsecondary accreditation of the United

States office of education, and approved by the board of optometry examiners. The rule of the board shall require a course including a minimum of forty hours of didactic education and sixty hours of approved supervised clinical training in the examination, diagnosis and treatment of conditions of the human eye and adnexa. The board may also, by rule, provide a procedure by which an applicant who has received didactic education meeting the requirements of rules adopted pursuant to this subsection at an approved school of optometry may apply to the board for a waiver of the didactic education requirements of this subsection.

6. A person licensed in any state as an optometrist prior to January 1, 1986, who applies to be a therapeutically certified optometrist shall first satisfactorily complete a course as defined by rule of the board of optometry examiners with particular emphasis on the examination, diagnosis and treatment of conditions of the human eye and adnexa provided by an institution accredited by a regional or professional accreditation organization which is recognized or approved by the council on postsecondary accreditation of the United States office of education, and approved by the board of optometry examiners. The rule of the board shall require a course including a minimum of forty hours of didactic education and sixty hours of approved supervised clinical training in the examination, diagnosis, and treatment of conditions of the human eye and adnexa. Effective July 1, 1987, the board shall require that therapeutically certified optometrists prior to the utilization of topical and oral antiglaucoma agents, oral antimicrobial agents and oral analgesic agents shall complete an additional forty-four hours of education with emphasis on treatment and management of glaucoma and use of oral pharmaceutical agents for treatment and management of ocular diseases, provided by an institution accredited by a regional or professional accreditation organization which is recognized or approved by the council on postsecondary accreditation of the United States office of education, and approved by the board of optometry examiners. Upon completion of the additional forty-four hours of education, a therapeutically certified optometrist shall also pass an oral or written examination prescribed by the board. The board shall suspend the optometrist's therapeutic certificate for failure to comply with this subsection by July 1, 1988.

The board shall adopt rules requiring an additional twenty hours per biennium of continuing education in the treatment and management of ocular disease for all therapeutically certified optometrists. The department of ophthalmology of the school of medicine of the State University of Iowa shall be one of the providers of this continuing education.

7. A person licensed in any state as an optometrist prior to January 1, 1986, who applies to be a therapeutically certified optometrist shall also be required to qualify as a certified licensed optometrist as defined in subsections 2, 3, and 4.

8. In addition to the examination required by subsection 1, paragraph "c", a person applying to be a therapeutically certified optometrist shall also pass an examination prescribed by the board of optometry examiners in the examination, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases of the human eye and adnexa.

[S13, § 2583-l; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, § **2576**; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, § 154.3]

85 Acts, ch 248, §2; 86 Acts, ch 1237, § 8; 87 Acts, ch 119, § 2

154.4 Revocation.

In addition to the grounds for revocation of license set forth in section 147.55, any licensed optometrist who shall practice or advertise as practicing the profession, under a false or assumed name or shall by such advertisement mislead the public to believe that the optometrist is practicing for or on behalf of an unlicensed person, shall have the license revoked.

[C35, § 2576-e1; C39, § **2576.1**; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, § 154.4]

154.5 Approved school.

No school of optometry shall be approved by the optometry examiners as a school of recognized standing unless said school:

1. Requires for graduation or any degree the completion of a course of study covering a period of at least four school years of nine months each year of actual continuous attendance.
2. Gives an adequate course of study in which at least one hundred fifty hours of the instruction are devoted to each of the subjects enumerated in subsection 1, paragraph "c" of section 154.3.
3. Publishes in a regularly issued catalogue the requirements for graduation and degrees as herein specified.

[S13, § 2583-I; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, § 2577; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, § 154.5]

154.6 Expiration and renewal of licenses.

Every license to practice optometry shall expire in multiyear intervals as determined by the board. Application for renewal of such license shall be made in writing to the Iowa department of public health at least thirty days prior to the expiration date, accompanied by the required renewal fee and accompanied by evidence of the licensee's attendance of continuing education programs in this field.

[C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, § 154.6]

2001 Acts, ch 58, §11; 2002 Acts, ch 1119, §15

154.7 Notice of expiration.

Notice of expiration of the license to practice optometry shall be given by the Iowa department of public health to all certificate holders by mailing the notice to the last known address of such licensee at least sixty days prior to the expiration date, and the notice shall contain a statement of the educational program attendance requirement and the amount of legal fee required as a condition to the renewal of the license. Subject to the provisions of this chapter, the license shall be renewed without examination.

[C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, § 154.7]

2001 Acts, ch 58, §12

154.8 Repealed by 77 Acts, ch 95, § 25.

154.9 Ophthalmic lenses sale. Repealed by 94 Acts, ch 1098, §3. See §147.108 and 147.109.

154.10 Standard of care.

A 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 or 150A in this state.

A therapeutically certified optometrist employing 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 and treatment as is common to persons licensed under chapter 148 or 150A in this state.

[C81, § 154.10]

85 Acts, ch 248, §3

