

**645—180.3(154) Licensure by endorsement.** An applicant who has been a licensed optometrist under laws of another jurisdiction for three years or more shall file an application for licensure by endorsement with the board office. An applicant for licensure to practice optometry in Iowa may only apply to be a therapeutically certified optometrist. The board may receive by endorsement any applicant from the District of Columbia or another state, territory, province or foreign country who:

**180.3(1)** Submits to the board a completed application;

**180.3(2)** Pays the licensure fee;

**180.3(3)** Provides an official copy of the transcript sent directly from the school to the board office. The transcript shall show a doctor of optometry degree from an accredited school. In the case of foreign graduates, applicants shall provide evidence of adherence to the current requirements of the NBEO to sit for the examination;

**180.3(4)** Shows evidence of successful completion of the examination of the NBEO that was current at the time of initial licensure or successful completion of the examination that is currently offered by the NBEO;

**180.3(5)** Provides verification of license(s) from every jurisdiction in which the applicant has been licensed, sent directly from the jurisdiction(s) to the board office. Web-based verification may be substituted for verification direct from the jurisdiction's board office if the verification provides:

- a. Licensee's name;
- b. Date of initial licensure;
- c. Current licensure status; and
- d. Any disciplinary action taken against the license;

**180.3(6)** Provides a statement disclosing and explaining the applicant's involvement in civil litigation related to the practice of optometry in any jurisdiction of the United States, other nations or territories; and

**180.3(7)** Provides proof of current CELMO certification. Applicants who provide proof of current CELMO certification satisfy the educational requirements for licensure by endorsement. If an applicant is not CELMO-certified, then the applicant must show evidence of the following:

a. The applicant shall supply evidence of completion of a course that has 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 that is recognized or approved by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation of the United States Department of Education; and

b. The applicant shall show evidence on the transcript of:

(1) Forty hours of didactic education and 60 hours of approved supervised clinical training in the examination, diagnosis, and treatment of conditions of the human eye and adnexa; and

(2) An additional 44 hours of education with emphasis on treatment and management of glaucoma and use of oral pharmaceutical agents for treatment and management of ocular diseases.

c. If the transcript does not show evidence of 40 hours of didactic education; 60 hours of approved supervised clinical training in the examination, diagnosis and treatment of conditions of the human eye and adnexa; and 44 hours of education with emphasis on treatment and management of glaucoma and use of oral pharmaceutical agents for treatment and management of ocular diseases, the applicant shall show satisfactory evidence of completion of a course that includes training in the above-listed areas.

d. Any transcript that shows graduation from an approved school of optometry after January 2, 1988, meets the requirement of 180.3(7) "b."

e. Any transcript that shows graduation from an approved school of optometry after January 2, 1986, meets the requirement of 180.3(7) "b"(1) of 40 hours of didactic education and 60 hours of approved supervised clinical training in the examination, diagnosis, and treatment of conditions of the human eye and adnexa. Applicants need to also show evidence of completion of the requirement in 180.3(7) "b"(2).

f. An applicant for licensure by endorsement shall provide proof of licensure and evidence of three years of active practice in another state, territory or district of the United States immediately preceding the date of application which has a similar scope of practice to that required in Iowa as determined by the

board. When the scope of practice is different, the applicant shall make available to the board evidence of completion of additional hours of training related to the area of the deficiency as prescribed by the board. The applicant may be exempt from the requirement of three years of active practice if, during the above-mentioned three-year period, the applicant was:

- (1) Teaching optometry;
- (2) A military optometrist;
- (3) A supervisory or administrative optometrist; or
- (4) A researcher in optometry.

**180.3(8)** Applicants for licensure by endorsement who were issued their Iowa licenses within six months prior to the renewal date shall not be required to renew their licenses until the renewal date two years later.