

1 Board of Optometry

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3 Adopted Permanent Rules Relating to Home Study Programs,

4 Emeritus Registration

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6 Rules as Adopted

7 6500.0100 DEFINITIONS.

8 Subpart 1. Scope. The terms used in this chapter have the  
9 meanings given them in this part.

10 Subp. 2. Act. "Act" means the Minnesota Optometric  
11 Practice Act, Minnesota Statutes, sections 148.52 to 148.62.

12 Subp. 3. Board. "Board" means the Minnesota Board of  
13 Optometry.

14 Subp. 4. Clinical rounds. "Clinical rounds" means a group  
15 of people sponsored by a clinic or a hospital assembled for  
16 discussion of information.

17 Subp. 5. Contact hour equivalents. "Contact hour  
18 equivalents" means the number of hours of home study equivalent  
19 to one hour of continuing education credit.

20 Subp. 6. Home study. "Home study" means the utilization  
21 of educational programs and materials outside the classroom  
22 setting.

23 6500.0150 CONTINUING EDUCATION.

24 Subpart 1. Home study and contact hours. Licensees may  
25 acquire nine hours of continuing education credits through home  
26 study in each three-year compliance period. Licensees may earn  
27 continuing education credits through contact hour equivalents.  
28 One contact hour is equivalent to one continuing education  
29 credit. Contact hour equivalents include:

30 A. Licensees may utilize self-instruction components  
31 presented in vision care periodicals, audio, and audio-visual  
32 taped programs, and other program materials specifically  
33 designed for self-instruction. All programs must include a  
34 self-test. One contact hour may be earned for each hour of  
35 self-instruction activity. Contact hours may include both the

1 instructional and testing activity.

2           B. The presentation of a lecture before an audience  
3 of optometric or other health professionals will result in one  
4 contact hour for each hour of presentation. For one time only,  
5 the lecturer can also acquire two contact hours for preparation  
6 of the lecture for each hour of presentation. A syllabus or  
7 lecture manuscript shall be furnished to the board to document  
8 the presented program.

9           C. Licensees may earn continuing education credits  
10 for the preparation of articles accepted for publication in  
11 optometric journals or other health-related journals and for the  
12 preparation of books accepted for publication. A maximum of  
13 three hours of continuing education credits will be granted for  
14 acceptance and publication of articles in optometric or  
15 health-related journals. A maximum of nine hours of continuing  
16 education credits will be granted for acceptance and publication  
17 of books on optometry-related subjects.

18           D. Each hour spent in clinical rounds will be granted  
19 one contact hour equivalent.

20           Subp. 2. Approval of other home study programs. Upon  
21 written request, the board may approve the use of home study  
22 methods not listed in subpart 1, and may determine the number of  
23 earned contact hours. Board approval will be determined on the  
24 following criteria:

25           A. Whether or not the program is likely to contribute  
26 to the advancement and extension of professional skill and  
27 knowledge in the practice of optometry.

28           B. Whether the sponsor or author of the program is  
29 recognized by the board as being qualified to design a program  
30 of home study in the field of optometry.

31           C. As a condition of approval of a program of  
32 self-instruction, the board may require that the author,  
33 sponsor, or licensee furnish the board with copies of  
34 instructional materials and testing tools.

35 6500.2700 OPTOMETRIST EMERITUS REGISTRATION.

1 Subpart 1. Application. Any optometrist duly licensed to  
2 practice optometry in Minnesota pursuant to Minnesota Statutes,  
3 sections 148.52 to 148.62 who declares that he or she is retired  
4 from active practice of optometry may apply to the board for  
5 emeritus registration on the annual license renewal form. To  
6 qualify, the optometrist must be retired and must not be subject  
7 to any disciplinary action or be subject to an order of the  
8 board imposing a suspended, conditional, or restricted license  
9 to practice optometry.

10 Subp. 2. Status of registrant. The emeritus registration  
11 is not a license which permits the registrant to practice  
12 optometry as defined in Minnesota Statutes, sections 148.52 to  
13 148.62, and the rules of the board.

14 Subp. 3. Continuing education. The continuing education  
15 requirements of part 6500.0900 are not applicable to emeritus  
16 registration.

17 Subp. 4. Change to active status. The emeritus  
18 optometrist must:

19 A. apply to the board for reinstatement of his or her  
20 active license; and

21 B. comply with the continuing education requirements  
22 for the time period in which the license was in emeritus  
23 status. This requirement must be fulfilled prior to petitioning  
24 the board for reinstatement of license.

25 Subp. 5. Renewal cycle or fees. Being registered as an  
26 emeritus optometrist will not subject the person to the annual  
27 license renewal cycle or renewal fee.