BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
Board of Optometric Examiners
(Amended at ARRS Committee)

201 KAR 5:021. Licensure Compliance Review.

RELATES TO: KRS 320.220, 320.250, 320.280
STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 320.240
CERTIFICATION STATEMENT:
NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 320.240(4) requires the Board of Optometric Examiners to promulgate administrative regulations for the reasonable regulation of the profession of optometry and the practice thereof by licensed optometrists. This administrative regulation is necessary to address the directive for the Board of Optometric Examiners to investigate and review certain licensures per the Opinion of the Attorney General, OAG 25-13, in a way best to protect public health and welfare.

Section 1. This administrative regulation shall be in effect until 2/28/2027.

Section 2. For all initial licenses approved by the Board for individuals who graduated optometry school between 2020 and2023, the following examinations shall be taken and a passing score shall be submitted and in the possession of the Board prior to license renewal for 2027:

(1) National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) Part 1 results;
(2) NBEO Part 2 and TMOD results; and
(3)
  (a) NBEO Part 3 results; or
  (b) The results of the American Board of Optometry (ABO) board certification exam if taken between February 5, 2026 and July 17, 2026.

Section 3. A licensee may submit a passing score of the Optometry Examining Board of Canada (OEBC) Part 1 to satisfy the requirements of Section 2(1) of this administrative regulation if the OEBC Part 1 test was taken by the licensee or test results were submitted by the licensee to the Kentucky Board of Optometric Examiners between July 30, 2025, and April 15, 2026.

Section 4. Any licensee who has not met the requirements of this administrative regulation shall not perform the following procedures until all required results are submitted, reviewed, and accepted by the Board:

(1) Argon Laser Trabeculoplasty (ALT);
(2) Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT);
(3) Laser Peripheral Iridotomy (LPI); or
(4) Yttrium Aluminum Garnet (YAG) capsulotomy.

Section 5. The Board shall provide written notice to the Office of the Attorney General when the investigation and review is complete.

(201 KAR 005:021. 52 Ky.R. 1616, 489; eff. 9-15-2026.)

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