



State of Idaho
Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses
Idaho Board of Optometry

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CONTINUING EDUCATION GUIDANCE

On March 28, 2023, the Continuing Education Requirements (CE) for renewal of licensure were changed in the following ways:

Eighteen (18) Hours Required Prior to Renewal

Each optometrist licensed by the state of Idaho shall attend in each calendar year prior to license renewal, a minimum of eighteen (18) full hours of approved optometric continuing education (CE) courses or meetings.

The Board no longer accepts rollover hours from the previous year. Please, review the updated rules for full detail. [Optometry Rule Chapter](#)

Asynchronous: not simultaneous or concurrent in time. (Online or virtual training)

Synchronous: happening, existing, or arising at precisely the same time. (In-person training)

Audit: The Board may conduct audits to confirm that the CE requirements have been met. In the event a licensee fails to provide the Board with acceptable documentation of the hours attested to on the renewal application, the license will not be renewed. It is the licensee's responsibility to maintain appropriate documentation of CE completion.

Licensure Renewal Period

Licenses must be renewed annually. Renewal will open 4 weeks before your birth date. You will receive an email notifying you that renewal is available. The license will expire and must be reinstated if you fail to renew before your birth date.

You will not be required to submit proof of CE to the Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses unless you are notified that you have been selected for an audit.

License Reinstatement Continuing Education Guidelines

If you fail to renew on time, you will be required to reinstate your license. Upon submission of a reinstatement application, you must submit proof of your completed CE hours.

Recommended Associations and Organizations for CE

1. Council on Optometric Practitioners Education (COPE)
2. Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education accredited courses.
3. Idaho Optometric Physicians

Board Staff will not approve CE activities. It is the responsibility of the professional to choose relevant and appropriate CE activities that contribute to their knowledge of the profession.