

State	education (new grads)	post-school education requirements (currently licensed ODs)	additional testing	proctor	Licensure CE requirements
Alaska	graduated from an accredited school of optometry	post-school educational requirements must be a course approved by the board as documented in rules. Currently the only course approved by the board is NSUOCO 36 hours laser and anterior segment surgery course.	no additional state testing	additional proctor not required	40 hours 2 year cycle; 2 hours on Pain Management & Opioid Misuse & Addiction which can be included in the 40 hours of CE.
Arkansas	Optometric Physicians graduated in 2019 or after who provided proof that he/she graduated from an optometry school whose program includes the education requirements for certification pursuant to this rule.	<p>b. The applicant provides proof of satisfactory completion of a course of instruction completed not more than 5 years prior to application of credentialing; provided that the course:</p> <p>(1) is provided by an accredited college of optometry, osteopathy or medicine;</p> <p>(2) includes a minimum of 32 clock hours in length;</p> <p>(3) is sponsored by an organization approved by the board.; and</p> <p>(4) includes the following didactic classroom instructions:</p> <p>(a) laser physics, hazards, and safety;</p> <p>(b) biophysics of lasers;</p> <p>(c) laser application on clinical optometry;</p> <p>(d) laser tissue interactions;</p> <p>(e) laser indications, contraindications, and potential complications;</p> <p>(f) gonioscopy;</p> <p>(g) laser therapy for open angle glaucoma;</p> <p>(h) laser therapy for angle closure glaucoma;</p> <p>(i) posterior capsulotomy;</p> <p>(j) common complications: lids, lashes, lacrimal system;</p> <p>(k) medicolegal aspects of anterior segment procedures;</p> <p>(l) peripheral iridotomy;</p> <p>(m) laser trabeculoplasty</p> <p>(n) minor surgical procedures;</p> <p>(o) overview of surgical instruments, asepsis, and O.S.H.A.</p> <p>(p) surgical anatomy of the eyelids;</p> <p>(q) emergency surgical procedures;</p> <p>(r) chalazion management;</p>	<p>a. The applicant must satisfactorily complete a written test administered or approved by the Arkansas State Board of Optometry on aspects of the Arkansas Optometry Practice act pertaining to this rule.</p> <p>b. The applicant must satisfactorily complete a clinical examination administered or approved by the Arkansas State Board of Optometry pertaining to this rule.</p> <p>c. The applicant must satisfactorily complete a written jurisprudence examination administered by the Arkansas State Board of Optometry pertaining to this rule.</p>	proctor occurs during examination	20 hours annually; 10 hours shall be of general and ocular therapy and pharmacology; 2 hours shall be of continuing education specifically regarding the procedures listed in law; no more than 4 hours may be practice management
Colorado	(a) Graduate from an accredited college or university of optometry in 2019 or later where the laser procedures and ocular adnexa treatments were taught	(b) Complete a training course approved by the board	Those who graduated 2019 or later must have passed NBEO LSPE OR they would also have to take the 32hr course to be eligible to perform laser/surgical procedures. The same 32hr course is required in CO (components defined in Rule rather than in statute).	The proctoring requirement is satisfied by the 32 hour course. The only time additional proctoring is required is if more than 2 years lapse between laser procedures.	24hrs every cycle (2yrs),16 of which must be synchronous (leaving 8hr eligible for asynchronous learning). A maximum of 4 hours can be earned by clinical observation/examination.

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Kentucky	<p>(1) The applicant provides proof that the applicant has graduated from an optometry school with a program that includes all of the education, training, and testing requirements established in Section 1 of this administrative regulation; or</p> <p>(2) By the end of the second licensure renewal period, the licensee shall provide proof of compliance with Section 1 of this administrative regulation.</p>	<p>(a) Is currently therapeutically licensed in Kentucky; and</p> <p>(b) Provides proof of completion of a course approved by the board that includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Didactic classroom instruction covering: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Laser physics; hazards and safety; b. Biophysics of laser; c. Laser application in clinical optometry; d. Laser tissue interactions; e. Laser indications; contraindications and potential complications; f. Gonioscopy; g. Laser therapy for open angle glaucoma; h. Laser therapy for angle closure glaucoma; i. Posterior capsulotomy; j. Common complications; lids, lashes, and lacrimal; k. Medicolegal aspects of anterior segment procedures; l. Peripheral iridotomy; m. Laser trabeculoplasty n. Minor surgical procedures; o. Overview of surgical instruments; asepsis and OSHA; p. The surgical anatomy of the eyelids; q. Emergency surgical procedures; r. Chalazion management; s. Epiluminescence microscopy; t. Suture techniques; u. Local anesthesia; techniques and complications; v. Anaphylaxis and other office emergencies; w. Radiofrequency surgery; and 	no additional testing	<p>demonstration of proficiency for laser procedures on human eye in presence of Board-approved preceptor;a)</p> <p>Performed the anterior segment laser procedure in the presence of the board approved qualified preceptor; and</p> <p>(b) Demonstrated clinical proficiency to the board approved preceptor in the performance of the procedure on a living human eye.</p> <p>(2) The board approved preceptor shall document in writing the preceptor's observations of the optometrist's performance and state that the optometrist has satisfactorily demonstrated the optometrist's knowledge and qualifications in the performance of the procedure.</p> <p>(3) A board approved preceptor shall be:</p> <p>(a) A licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist whose license is in good standing;</p> <p>(b) A full-time or adjunct faculty member of an accredited optometry or medical school; and</p> <p>(c) Credentialed in the expanded therapeutic procedure or expanded therapeutic laser procedure that the preceptor is teaching.</p>	20 hours annually; Optometrists credentialed in ETP must complete 5 hours of ETP CE annually and none can be completed via the internet. The 5 hours are part of the 20 hours required to renew licenses annually. All optometrists with a DEA number, must register with KASPER and take a 2 hour course annually in pain management/addiction disorders. This 2 hour course is part of the overall number overall number of hours required to renew a license.
Louisiana	If school provides courses listed in post-school education; no additional education required. (all schools since 2011)	<p>A board-approved course of instruction shall be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. provided by an accredited optometry, osteopathy or medical school; b. a minimum of 32 clock hours in length; and c. sponsored by an organization approved by the board. approved by the board that may include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. the following didactic classroom instructions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a). laser physics, hazards, and safety; (b). biophysics of lasers; (c). laser application; (d). laser tissue interactions; (e). laser indications, contraindications, and potential complications; (f). gonioscopy; (g). laser therapy for open angle glaucoma; (h). laser therapy for angle closure glaucoma; (i). posterior capsulotomy; (j). common complications, lids, lashes, lacrimal system; (k). medicolegal aspects of procedures; (l). peripheral iridotomy; (m). laser trabeculoplasty; (n). minor surgical procedures; (o). overview of surgical instruments, asepsis, and O.S.H.A.; (p). relevant surgical anatomy; (q). emergency surgical procedures; (r). chalazion management; (s). local anesthesia: techniques and complications; 	written test by state board	No proctor	16 hours annually; 8 of the required 16 hours of continuing education shall pertain to ocular and systemic pharmacology and current diagnosis and treatment of ocular disease and shall be obtained through an in-person classroom setting.

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Mississippi	Those graduating from an accredited school or college of optometry within five (5) years after the effective date of this act may be excluded from course completion requirement, provided that the candidate has successfully passed appropriate coursework to fulfill requirements as determined by the board.	(i) Provided by an accredited optometry, osteopathy or medical school and not completed before May 1, 2021. (ii) To be completed in a time that is no longer than two years before final certification date (iii) A minimum of thirty-two (32) clock hours in length that includes at least 6 hours in hands on laboratory work. a. laser physics, hazards, and safety; b. biophysics of lasers; c. laser application on clinical optometry; d. laser tissue interactions; e. laser indications, contraindications, and potential complications; f. gonioscopy; g. laser applications in glaucoma care; h. YAG application in primary eye care i. YAG laser posterior capsulotomy; j. common complications: lids, lashes, lacrimal system; k. medicolegal aspects of anterior segment procedures; l. minor surgical procedures; m. overview of surgical instruments, asepsis, and O.S.H.A.; n. surgical anatomy of the eyelids; o. emergency surgical procedures; p. chalazion management; q. epiluminescence microscopy; r. local anesthesia: techniques and complications; s. injectable pharmaceuticals in primary eye care; t. anaphylaxis and other office emergencies;	Satisfactorily completes a written test approved by the board on aspects pertaining to primary eye care procedures including YAG laser posterior capsulotomy and injectable pharmaceuticals. Passage of the state board written exam or the National Board of Examiners in Optometry, Laser and Surgical Procedures Examination, and Injection Skills Examination will be accepted. d) Passes a clinical skills assessment as it pertains to Yag laser posterior capsulotomy that is approved by the board	Participates in eight (8) additional hours of working under a preceptor who is either an ophthalmologist or licensed credentialed optometrist. The preceptor must be licensed to perform the ophthalmic YAG laser posterior capsulotomy procedures, and the training shall occur within the state in which the preceptor is licensed to perform such procedures. The preceptorship must be completed within 3 months of passage of skills assessment.	20 hours annually; 10 of the 20 hours must be therapeutic.
Montana	see post-education requirements	Licenses must complete a course that: (a) is at least 32hr in duration; (b) includes content related to each laser surgical procedure set forth in statute; and (c) is taught by an instructor who is qualified to perform each of the surgical procedures set forth in 37-10-101, MCA	no additional testing	No proctor	36 hours every 2 year cycle; Licensees holding a laser surgical certificate must complete 8 hours of CE relating to lasers or surgery during each CE cycle. (3) Licensees holding a laser surgical certificate or a TPA certificate must complete 2 hours of CE related to pain management during each CE cycle.
Oklahoma	see post-education requirements	You must have passed the Laser Therapy for the Anterior Segment Course offered by Northeastern State University as a prerequisite for taking the Oklahoma Boards	part of licensing examination	no proctor	25 hours annually; All Oklahoma licensed optometrists are required to obtain twenty-five (25) hours of continuing education annually. Included in the twenty-five (25) hours are a maximum of six (6) Practice Management hours, and a maximum of six (6) Remote Learning hours (which includes internet hours), and a minimum of one (1) Judicious Prescribing hour.
South Dakota	graduated from accredited school of optometry	(everyone) completes course that is: 32 hours in length; approved by the board; includes content related to each procedures	ODs who graduated after 7-1-2024 must also take the laser/injection part of the national boards.	Procedures must be performed in the presence of an OD with an AP endorsement on his/her license or an ophthalmologist. Can be certified individually in each area. Number and procedures are: 5 Intradermal Injection of a Paralytic Agent (INJ-PA), 5 Intralésional Injection of a Steroid to Treat a Chalazion (INJ-S), 5 Use of Local Anesthetic in Conjunction with the Primary Removal of a Pedunculated Skin Tag (ST), 5 Performance of a Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty (LAS-T), 10 Performance of a Posterior Capsulotomy Using an Yttrium Aluminum Garnet Laser (LAS-YAG)	45 CE hours needed every 3-year period (30 must be live and 15 must be self-directed) Five TPA hours are required each year No more than 8 hours of practice management No more than 15 hours of self-directed learning Surgical / Ophthalmologist Observation: 1 hour for every 2 hours of observation - 4 hours maximum All other forms of online / correspondence courses

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Virginia	Board requires certain subjects (similar to NSUOCO course)	TPA certification with attestation of completion of 32hr course; Must include: Laser physics, hazards, and safety; b. Biophysics of laser; c. Laser application in clinical optometry; d. Laser tissue interactions; e. Laser indications, contraindications, and potential complications; f. Gonioscopy; g. Laser therapy for open-angle glaucoma; h. Posterior capsulotomy; i. Common complications, lids, lashes, and lacrimal; j. Medicolegal aspects of anterior segment procedures; k. Peripheral iridotomy; and l. Laser trabeculoplasty.	Passage of LSPE, or Proctored sessions in compliance with 18VAC105-20-90, which may be obtained during education training described in subdivision 3 of this section.	A. Applicants for laser surgery certification who have not provided the board with a passing score on the Laser Section of the LSPE must submit evidence on a form provided by the board of at least two proctored sessions for each of the following laser procedures: PI, SLT, YAG	Each license renewal of an active license shall be conditioned upon submission of evidence to the board of 20 hours of continuing education taken by the applicant during the previous license period. A licensee who completes more than 20 hours of continuing education in a year shall be allowed to carry forward up to 10 hours of continuing education for the next annual renewal cycle. 1. The 20 hours may include up to two hours of recordkeeping for patient care, including coding for diagnostic and treatment devices and procedures or the management of an optometry practice, provided that such courses are not primarily for the purpose of augmenting the licensee's income or promoting the sale of specific instruments or products. 2. For optometrists who are certified in the use of therapeutic pharmaceutical agents, at least 10 of the required continuing education hours shall be in the areas of ocular and general pharmacology; diagnosis and treatment of the human eye and its adnexa, including treatment with new pharmaceutical agents; new or advanced clinical devices, techniques, modalities, or procedures; or pain management.
West Virginia	For new Optometry graduates after May 1, 2025, all new applicants must graduate from an accredited Optometry school or College of Optometry AND pass the Laser and Surgical Procedures Examination (LSPE) administered by the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) as defined in W. Va. Code §30-8B-5.. For current West Virginia licensees who wish to become laser certified: Applicants must complete an approved course for injection certification or pass the NEBO ISE exam as well as complete an approved course for ophthalmic laser utilization certification or pass the NBEO LSPE exam. Once your Laser Certification Application is Board approved, please use the WVBO Laser Certification Proctored Report Forms (pdf) to document the completion of each required number of proctored procedures on a living human eye: •Posterior Capsulotomy (YAG CAP) - five (5) proctored procedures required •Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT) - five (5) proctored procedures required •Peripheral Iridotomy (LPI) - four (4) proctored procedures required You can choose to become certified in each of the three procedures outlined in W. Va. State Code 30-8B-4 and noted above, effective as of July 9, 2025.	Education from accredited college of optometry for those graduated after May 1, 2025. For current WV licensed O.D.s - must take board approved course for injection and laser certification.	Graduates after May 1, 2025: LSPE (NBEO)	Document the completion of each required number of proctored procedures on a living human eye:(5)YAG, (5)SLT,(4) LPI to proctor's satisfaction. May receive certification for one procedure at a time.	A total of 40 Continuing Education hours are required for each even-numbered two-year cycle. Specific requirements for each two-year reporting period include the following: Minimum of twelve (12) CE hours in ocular pharmacology or therapeutics. No limit on number of hours taken in practice management. Maximum of ten (10) CE hours of optometric study may be taken by correspondence or via the internet, all others must be live (instructor and student are both in the same room during entirety of course). All licensees shall complete two (2) CE hours in injections. Two (2) hours of drug diversion CE is required within one year of receiving an initial West Virginia license (applies to all licensees). All injection certified licensees must maintain and provide proof of current CPR/Basic Life Support certification, which is eligible for CE credit.

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Wyoming	Graduate from an accredited college or university of optometry where the laser procedures in subsection (b) and adnexa treatment were taught and passage of the NBEO Laser and Surgical Procedures Examination, or (II) Complete a board-approved training course	Complete a board-approved training course	no additional testing	Satisfactorily complete a proctored session within two (2) years prior to performing laser surgical procedures. Proctoring may be performed by: (I) An optometrist or ophthalmologist licensed to perform the procedures in subsection (b) in any jurisdiction; or (II) An optometrist who has previously been proctored. (ii) If a licensee has not performed a laser procedure within two (2) years, the licensee shall satisfactorily complete another proctored session.	40 hours of CE biannually 15 hours must address ocular systemic therapeutics. 3 hours must address the responsible prescribing of controlled substances. No more than 6 hours can address practice management. No more than 10 hours can be earned via asynchronous CE (formerly "online" CE)