



**NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF
EXAMINERS IN OPTOMETRY**

Feb 2, 2024

To: North Carolina Secretary of State
North Carolina Attorney General
Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure Oversight Committee

From: North Carolina State Board of Examiners in Optometry
Samantha Goode, Administrative Director
521 Yopp Road Suite 214-444
Jacksonville, NC 28540

Please accept my apologies for the delayed submission of this form. FYE 2023 was my first complete year in this position, and I overlooked the need to submit this information. If any reminders are sent regarding this requirement, please copy me at Samantha@ncoptometry.org. Thank you.

The following information for fiscal year 2022-2023 is submitted on behalf of this Board in accordance with the provisions of N.C.G.S. 93B-2(a):

A.

1. North Carolina State Board of Examiners in Optometry
521 Yopp Road Suite 214-444
Jacksonville, NC 28540

Michael J. Haines, O.D., President
Charles V. Sikes, O.D., Secretary-Treasurer
Scott L. Philippe, O.D., Member
Jerry N. Ellington, O.D., Member
Mollie B. Blenn, O.D., Member
Emily Nicholson, Member
Harry L. Southerland, Member

- a. 1481 licensees
 2. 82 individuals applied for the examination
 3. No one who is eligible to apply for the examination is “refused” (For eligibility, see NCGS 90-90-118, 90-119.5, and Chapter 42B of the NCAC).
 4. 82 individuals appeared for the examination
 5. Licenses were issued to 52 individuals as a result of the examinations
 - a. 29 individuals failed the examinations
 6. The Board does not differentiate between applicants who have been licensed in other jurisdictions prior to applying for a North Carolina license and those applying immediately following graduation and who do not hold a license to practice elsewhere; all applicants are required to take the clinical examination with the exception of those individuals who apply in accordance with the provisions of N.C.G.S. 93B-15.1
 7. See above
 - a. 21 complaints were received
 - b. None.
 8. None
 9. None
 10. None anticipated
 11. The Board is in the process of going through its Rules to modernize them (for example, we recently deleted language in our “How to contact the Board” rule to delete an antiquated reference to a WATS Line and add the Board’s website). At this point, however, we cannot forecast with any degree of accuracy the specific changes to our Rule we might request as a result of such efforts. The Board presently has no intent to attempt to promulgate new substantive rules not already in process.
- B. Submitted by Auditor
- 1.
- C.
- D.
- E.
1. 82 applicants for licensure, 52 licenses granted
 2. No applicants with a conviction record
 3. 1 Military Applicant, 1 license granted
 4. 0 Military Spouse Applicants