

OREGON BOARD OF OPTOMETRY



Board Newsletter

February 2022

2022 Legislative Session

The 2022 legislative short session began on Tuesday February 1st and is scheduled through March 7, 2022. There are several bills that may affect optometry and optometrists that the agency is watching. Here are the three bills that have been identified so far. Each has a hyperlink to access the bill online:

[HB 4043](#)—related to information collected and disseminated with CCO's, health care professionals and organizations

[HB 4096](#)—allows certain licensed health care professionals from other states to perform limited, uncompensated services in Oregon without being licensed in Oregon. Optometrists are one of the professions affected by this bill.

[SB 1512](#)—affects how agencies look at criminal convictions in licensing decisions.

Remember that as a licensee and Oregonian, you have the ability to shape any legislation proposed in the State. Reach out to your legislator to voice your ideas about bills being proposed. Also, OOPA has a dedicated lobbyist to work on legislative issues that affect the profession. Reach out to OOPA if you have ideas or comments on proposed legislation.

“The COVID pandemic is waning but not over. As we see masking lifted in other areas in our lives, be sure that you keep yourself, your staff and your patients safe by maintaining the Oregon mask requirements for health care settings.”

*- Shelley Sneed,
Executive Director*

REMINDER: CE Biennial Requirements

Just a reminder that there are now three biennial CE license renewal requirements. Licensees cannot report the same course in a license renewal period. You can retake courses in future renewals. We are working with our licensing system vendor to have all three due dates on the CE entry screen in the portal.

Law/ethics—this isn't new and the due date is available on the top of the CE entry screen. Here's a link to currently approved [law/ethics options](#).

Cultural competency—this is a new biennial requirement. This is a link to the [education page](#) of the OBO website that shows the approved course options.

Pain Management—this is a new biennial requirement as well. At first renewal, licensees need to complete the Oregon Pain Management Commission course. After first reporting, licensees can report COPE approved pain courses in addition to the Oregon Pain Management course. Here's the [education page](#) of the OBO website with links to courses.

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LICENSING

Update your record timely to avoid fees—places of practice and mailing addresses

Here are some situations to be aware of to avoid late fees:

- 1) When you add a new practice or leave an existing one, within 14 days but no later than the effective date, log into the licensee self-service portal and go to the places of practice section. If you are terminating, edit the location and add the termination date and answer the questions about patient records. If you are adding a new location, click the add location link and add all of the required information.
- 2) If you change your primary practice location, you'll need to order a new license copy. Log into the licensee self-service portal and go to document requests. Click license copy and fill out the information to order a new copy. It's \$40 for a new license copy and you'll get the primary location and a duplicate portable multiple license.
- 3) Did you move and need to change your mailing address? Your legal address of record with the Board, the one we use for mailing, is located in the personal information section of the portal. You are required to make changes within 14 days and no later than the effective date to avoid a late reporting fee.
- 4) Retiring or moving and want to lapse your license? If you'd like to change your license status outside of the license renewal period, or want to lapse or retire your license, email one of the OBO staff with a written request. In order for OBO staff to update your record, you'll need to include OBO's e-signature, which is 1) your full name, 2) your license number and 3) the last 4 digits of your SSN.
- 5) If you change your email address, log into the licensee self-service portal using the original email address. Then go to the personal information section of the portal and update your email address. After that update, you'll use the new email address as your login.

The Licensee self-service portal link is always updated and available on the home page of the Board's website

www.oregon.gov/obo

Board Member Opening

If you've ever considered applying for a Board position on the OBO Board, think fast! Dr. Louie is terming out after six years of dedicated service. The due date for applications is Monday March 7, 2022.

Use this [link to apply](#) for the position. If you'd like additional information about Board service requirements, call or email Shelley Sneed, Executive Director for information.



Board Members

Ami Halvorson, OD
President, Portland

Ann Woods, OD
Salem

Derek Louie, OD
Portland

Patrick Ayres, OD
Vice President, Bend

Laurie Goolsby
Klamath Falls

Staff Members

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Board Meeting Call in Information

Email Optometry.board@obo.oregon.gov
for a Teams meeting invitation

**The Board office is closed
on meeting dates**



BOARD MEETING

Board Activities

As of January 10, 2022, the Board had the following licensee counts:

Active Licenses	862	Inactive Licenses	312
2021-22 new applications	22 (since 7/1/21)		
2021 new licenses issued	56		

Discipline Cases for 10/1/2021-12/31/2021:

New complaints	14	Open cases at 12/31/21	11
Complaints resolved & closed	7		
Monitored cases	1		

Board Actions:

The Board discussed the following agenda items at their meeting:

- Reviewed the Board's financial statements.
- Reviewed CE courses approved since the last Board meeting.
- Reviewed proposed and noticed rule changes.
- Took action on the following Executive Session cases:
 - Closed case with discipline: **C2021-1237 Hedberg/OBO**
 - Closed case with discipline: **C2021-1241 Friberg/OBO**
 - Closed case with discipline: **C2021-1242 Harkness/OBO**

2022 Board Meeting schedule:

- Friday May 6, 2022 at 12:30 pm
- Friday August 26, 2022 at 12:30 pm
- Friday November 18, 2022 at 12:30 pm

Board meetings are offered via MS Team. Licensees can earn their 1 hour of law/ethics trainings by attending a public session meeting. Email optometry.board@obo.oregon.gov for a meeting invitation.

Masking Requirements for Health Care Settings

The Oregon Health Authority has announced that masks will no longer be required in Oregon as late as March 19, 2022 in Oregon.

There is at least one exception to that requirement—that's in health care settings. As an optometrist, you will still be required to mask and ensure that your staff and patients are masked. Please keep up the diligent work that you've been doing throughout the pandemic. Keep your masks and protective equipment available. Ensure that your signage is still in place so all of your patients and staff know the requirements and comply with the law.

We're all COVID fatigued and this isn't the easiest outcome given the lifting mask restrictions elsewhere. Please know that as soon as OBO learns that masks will no longer be required in health care settings, we will notify our licensees of the change and effective date.

Licensing Optometrists in Oregon since 1905

Oregon Board of Optometry

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**If you're receiving this via USPS, the Board
doesn't have an email address on file for you**

Contact Us

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Office Hours:

Monday through Friday

7:30 am to 4:30 other than
holidays and Board meetings