

Application Guide for Registration to Practice Optometry in Nova Scotia

Thank you for your interest concerning entering the practice of optometry in Nova Scotia

I Abbreviations

CEO	Canadian Examiners in Optometry
CSAO	Canadian Standard Assessment in Optometry
NSCO	Nova Scotia College of Optometrists

II Requirements for Issuing of a Certificate of Registration

- 1) The applicant must have completed a NSCO application.
- 2) The applicant must have graduated from a school of optometry, accredited by the American Council of Optometric Education.
- 3) If the applicant has previously practiced optometry, the optometrist must be a member of good standing in all jurisdictions where the optometrist holds a certificate of registration.
- 4) The applicant must not have been convicted of a criminal offense or an offense under the Narcotic Control Act (Canada) or the Food and Drug Act (Canada) or of any offense of similar laws in any other country.
- 5) The applicant must have Canadian citizenship, permanent residency or authorization under the Immigration Act (Canada) to engage in the practice of optometry.
- 6) The applicant must successfully complete all examinations set or approved by NSCO.
- 7) The applicant must be approved by the Board of the NSCO.
- 8) Upon approval by the Board of the NSCO the applicant must complete an annual membership report form.
- 9) The applicant is responsible to ensure the NSCO receives his/her information. Please contact the NSCO if you do not receive updates from us regarding the status of your application.

III Process for Registration

- 1) Obtain a NSCO application by contacting:

Laura Campbell
Administrative Assistant
P.O. Box 9410, Station A
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3K 5S3

Telephone: 902-434-8810/Fax: 902-425-2441

e-mail: info@nsc.ca

Complete the application and return your application to Laura Campbell at the above address.

Enclose a cheque for \$500.00 made payable to the Nova Scotia College of Optometrists. This fee consists of a \$300.00 non-refundable application fee and a fee of \$200.00 for the Nova Scotia Optometric Jurisprudence Examination. This exam fee of \$200.00 is refundable if your application is not accepted.

This application must be complete in all respects.

With respect to degree obtained and date: If you have not yet received your degree, declare your expected degree and date of graduation. A transcript indicating your degree has been granted is required by the same deadline indicated for the CSAO application.

- 2) Complete the application for the Canadian Standard Assessment in Optometry (CSAO) and return to:

**Canadian Examiners in Optometry
6085 Main Street
Stouffville, Ontario
L4A 3R4**

- 3) Upon receipt of your application to the NSCO, it will be reviewed and if accepted the NSCO will:

Inform the Canadian Examiners in Optometry that you are eligible to sit the CSAO providing the CSAO application was approved. If you are a new graduate this decision will be conditional pending receipt of your University transcript indicating that your degree has been granted.

Forward, to the applicant, all material that is relevant to the laws of Nova Scotia that relate to the practice of Optometry.

A one hour examination will be given in conjunction with the sitting of the CSAO on Nova Scotia Optometric Jurisprudence.

- 4) A report of your performance in the CSAO as administered by the CEO will be sent to the NSCO along with your performance on the NSCO Jurisprudence Examination.

If you have successfully completed all examinations, a report will be sent to the Board of the NSCO recommending registration in the NSCO. The Board then considers all documentation and makes the final decision on registration.

- 5) Upon the NSCO Board's approval the NSCO Administrative Assistant will send you an annual report form. This report form along with the appropriate NSCO professional dues should be returned to the NSCO office. (Details will accompany the report form.) Upon receipt of the professional dues and favorable review of the report form registration to the NSCO is given.

***Candidates should expect a three month processing period after sitting the CSAO before obtaining final registration in Nova Scotia.**