What We Do

The Optician Program registers optical businesses and individual opticians within the state of California.

The Board is charged with enforcing statutes and regulations pertaining to the practice of optometry and opticianry in California.





BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

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OPTICIAN PROGRAM



Registrations

The Optician Program includes four license types:

Registered Dispensing Ophthalmic
Business—For businesses that offer the fit
and adjustment of spectacles and/or
contact lenses.

Spectacle Lens Dispenser—For those who have passed the American Board of Opticianry exam and wish to work in dispensing optical shops.

Contact Lens Dispenser—For those who have passed the National Contact Lens Examiners exam and wish to work in dispensing optical shops.

Nonresident Ophthalmic Lens Dispenser— For businesses outside of California that ship ophthalmic lenses to consumers within the state.

Do I need a license?

Any person doing the fitting and adjustment of ophthalmic lenses in a retail store is required to have a spectacle lens and/or contact lens dispensing registration. Those working under optometrists or ophthalmologists as optometric assistants do not need to have registrations with the Board.

Those looking to open dispensing ophthalmic businesses need to have acquired a Registered Dispensing Ophthalmic Business certificate before opening.

