

HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT 56 OF 1974

RULES RELATING TO THE REGISTRATION OF OPTOMETRISTS

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The Interim National Medical and Dental Council of South Africa has made the rules as set out in the Schedule hereto in terms of [section 32](#) (1) of the Medical, Dental and Supplementary Health Service Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974) in substitution of the rules published as Government Notice 1710 of 30 October 1964 as amended by Government Notices R.1108 of 11 June 1982, R.2516 of 18 November 1983, R.256 of 8 February 1985, Notice 8 of 8 August 1986, Notice 13 of 1986, Board Notice 8 of 26 February 1988, Board Notice 104 of 1988 and Board Notice 343 of 11 December 1992.

SCHEDULE

1. The Council may register as an Optometrist any applicant who has obtained after examination any of the following qualifications in optometry:

Examining authority and qualification

Abbreviation for registration

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Technikon Witwatersrand

Bachelor of Technology
(Optometry)

B Tech (Optom) Tech Wits

University of Durban- Westville

Bachelor of Optometry

B Optom Durban-Westville

University of the North

Bachelor of Optometry

B Optom North

Rand Afrikaans University

Bachelor of Optometry

B Optom RAU

South African Optometric Association

Diploma in Optometry
Fellow
(Recognised until 10 November
1996 only)

Dip Optom (SA)
FOA (SA)

AUSTRALIA

University of Melbourne

Bachelor of Science in Optometry† BSc (Optom) Melb

Queensland Institute of Technology

Diploma in Optometry† Dip Optom Queensland Inst of Tech

CANADA

University of Waterloo

Doctor of Optometry† OD Waterloo

NEW ZEALAND

University of Auckland

Diploma in Optometry† Dip Optom Auckland

UNITED KINGDOM

Association of Ophthalmic Opticians. Ireland

Fellow† FAOO Irel

British College of Ophthalmic Opticians (Optometrists)

Diploma in Ophthalmic Optics† D Opt
Fellow† FBCO
Foundation Fellow† FBCO
Member† MBCO

British Optical Association

Fellow * FBOA
Higher or Honours Diploma† FBOA HD

Dublin Institute of Technology

Diploma in Ophthalmic Optics† Dip Optom Inst Tech Dubl

Institute of Optical Science

Member† MIOS

Scottish Association of Opticians

Fellow† FSAO

Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers

Fellow† FSMC
Higher Diploma in Ophthalmic
Optics† SMHD

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Illinois College of Optometry

Doctor of Optometry†

OD Illinios Coll of Optom

Indiana University

Doctor of Optometry†

OD Indiana

New England College of Optometry

Doctor of Optometry†

OD New England Coll of Optom

Ohio State University

Doctor of Optometry†

OD Ohio State

Pacific University

Doctor of Optometry†

OD Pacific

Pennsylvania College of Optometry

Doctor of Optometry†

CD Pennsylvania Coll of Optom

Southern California College of Optometry

Doctor of Optometry†

OD Southern California Coll of
Optom

University of Alabama

Doctor of Optometry†

OD Alabama

University of California

Doctor of Optometry†

OD California

University of Houston

Doctor of Optometry†

OD Houston

*Recognized until 14 October 1996 only, if granted after 31 December 1978 and it evidence is submitted that the training for the qualification commenced after 31 December 1971.

† Recognised until 14 October 1998 only.

2. The council may register as an Optometrist any person who passed an examination in optometry conducted by the council in terms of [section 32](#) of the Act.
3. Where, in the case of an application for registration, the qualification an which the application is based has not already been approved by the council, the applicant shall be required to cause the council to be furnished with authoritative information as to the training required for such qualification, whereupon, if the standard of such training is considered satisfactory by the council, such qualification may be approved.

4. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in these rules it shall be lawful for the Council to register as an optometrist any person who has not fully complied with these rules, if the Council, after due inquiry, is satisfied that such person is competent to practise as an optometrist.