

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS  
CONFERENCE CALL BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
July 2, 2008**

The Georgia State Board of Dispensing Opticians met Wednesday, July 2, 2008 at 9:10 a.m. via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Glenn Morris, *Chairman* Steve Sanford, *Vice Chairman*, Diane Drake, *Cognizant*, Thomas Schulz, Dave Meldrum

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

Sandy Bond, *Executive Director*, Gwen Dodson, *Administrative Assistant*, Ellen J. Morris, *Board Secretary*, Katrina Martin, *Nursing Consultant – Practice*, Wylencia Monroe, *Assistant Attorney General*

**VISITORS PRESENT**

Julie Sedlacek, *LDO*  
Charles Durham, *LDO*

Mr. Morris established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

**RULES HEARING 420-8-.01**

The visitors asked questions regarding the application process for apprentices. Some of their questions can only be answered as the application process evolves. The Board president invited the visitors to the July 30, 2008 Board meeting in order for the Board to give them more information.

Mr. Sanford, Mrs. Drake seconded and the Board voted to adopt Rule 420-8-.01 as written.

**420-8-.01 Practical Training and Experience.**

In order to be admitted to the examination pursuant to that provision of O.C.G.A. §43-29 7(b)(4) which provides "practical training and experience of a grade and character satisfactory to the Board for not less than two years under the supervision of a dispensing optician, a licensed physician, or a licensed optometrist: Provided, however, that any time spent in a recognized school shall be considered as a part of the apprenticeship period provided herein", the applicant must submit documentation to the Board with his/her application to establish the satisfaction of such provisions, the satisfaction of which will be determined under the following standards:

(a) Effective July 1, 2008, any person wishing to qualify under the apprenticeship statute shall make application to register with the Board prior to beginning the apprenticeship along with the application fee as determined by the Board. The registration shall identify the supervising licensed physician, licensed optometrist, or licensed dispensing optician and the mailing address and telephone number of the primary location where the apprenticeship training shall

occur; provided, however, that in addition to the primary location, such training may be furnished at other locations under proper supervision.

(b) "Practical training and experience of a grade and character satisfactory to the Board for not less than two years" means two (2) calendar years and shall include, at a minimum, 3,000 hours experience engaged in apprenticeship functions and studies which shall include (but not be limited to) instruction in ophthalmic optics, optical laboratory materials and techniques, eye anatomy and physiology, related laws and regulations, ophthalmic dispensing theory and application, and basic contact lens theory.

(c) Instruction may also be evidenced by certificates from recognized schools of opticianry with the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education or formal home study programs through the Career Progression Program with the National Academy of Opticianry or other programs approved in advance by the Board.

(d) "Under the supervision of a licensed dispensing optician, licensed physician or a licensed optometrist" means that the appropriate licensed practitioner(s) must be on the premises where the practical training and experience is being acquired for every hour of apprenticeship sought to be considered in fulfillment of this requirement.

(e) Effective July 1, 2008, the board shall provide a list of textbooks and instructional materials to guide the apprentice and supervisors in providing the appropriate apprenticeship instruction. Upon completion by the applicant, such training and experience shall be certified by the supervising licensed dispensing optician, licensed physician or licensed optometrist to the board.

(f) Applicants who have received practical training and experience in the trade or occupation of dispensing optician prior to July 1, 2008, shall receive credit toward the practical training and experience requirements if they register with the board in accordance with the provisions of this rule no later than August 31, 2008 and such training and experience is deemed satisfactory by the board.

(g) The date that the application is received by the Georgia State Board of Dispensing Opticians will designate the actual commence date of the apprenticeship pending approval of the application.

O.C.G.A. §§43-29-3, 43-29-6, and 43-29-7.

### **APPRENTICESHIP REGISTRATION FORM**

Mrs. Drake, Mr. Sanford seconded and the Board voted to accept the apprentice registration form provisionally as written until further review by the Board.

Mrs. Bond addressed the alien status on the application forms. This discussion will take place at the July 30, 2008 Board meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Morris adjourned the meeting at 9:22 a.m.

**Minutes recorded by:** Gwendolyn Dodson, *Administrative Assistant*  
**Minutes reviewed and edited by:** Sylvia Bond, *Executive Director*

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Glenn Morris, *Chairman*

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Sylvia Bond, *Executive Director*

**DATE SIGNED AND APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_