

Rule 420-9-0.1-.01 Emergency Rule COVID-19: Continuing Education for License Renewals

(1) Due to the COVID-19 State of Emergency, notwithstanding any other rule or provision of law, the requirement that no more than five (5) hours may be obtained via the internet of the required ten (10) hours of continuing education may be obtained via the internet or home study except for those provided by the Opticians Association of America, the National Academy of Opticianry or the Opticians Association of Georgia will be accepted by the Board, is hereby modified as follows:

(a) The required ten (10) continuing education hours for the upcoming renewal cycle ONLY (expiration date of March 31, 2021) may be obtained via the internet or by home study, and **shall** consist of only those continuing education hours offered by the Opticians Association of America, the National Academy of Opticianry or the Opticians Association of Georgia will be accepted by the Board; and,

- Of the ten (10) hours, a minimum of two (2) hours shall be in the area of contact lenses.
- Of the ten (10) hours, six (6) hours must be technically approved hours (which may be either spectacles or contact lenses).

(b) This rule shall be effective for the duration of the emergency and for a period of not more than 120 days thereafter.

(2) With his/her application for license renewal, each licensed dispensing optician must submit an affidavit of course hours completed as proof that his/her education requirements have been satisfied.

(3) No duplicate courses will be accepted during the same renewal period. No courses under the same title, by the same instructor, will be accepted for renewal purposes.

Effective August 7, 2020