

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
Board Meeting Minutes of May 20, 2026 * 10:00 a.m.
Conference Call/Webex

The Georgia State Board of Optometry met via teleconference/Webex on Wednesday, May 20, 2026.

Board Members Present:

Paul Ajamian, O.D President
Jeanne Perrine, O.D., Vice-President
Robert “Bob” McCullough, O.D.
Ellen Fitzgerald, O.D.
Jeffrey Hackleman, O.D.
B. Thassanee Gutter-Parker – Consumer Member

Administrative Staff Present:

Amanda Allen, Executive Director
Jalaina Fuller, Licensing Supervisor
Linsey Joiner, Board Support Specialist
Ann Shiver, Licensing Analyst

Attorney General’s Office

Eric Yi, AAG

Dr. Paul Ajamian, President, established a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Agenda: Approved with additional late items:

- Injectables – Bob McCullough

Meeting Minutes:

- February 18, 2026 CC Board Meeting
- April 30, 2026 Rules Cmte Meeting

Recommendation:

Approve as presented
Approve as presented

Dr. Perrine moved, Dr. Fitzgerald seconded, and the Board voted to approve the February 18, 2026 Conference Call Board meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Dr. McCullough moved, Dr. Hackleman seconded, and the Board voted to approve the April 30, 2026 Conference Call Rules Committee meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried

Application Ratify List: Licenses Issued between: February 18, 2026 – May 15, 2026

License:	License Record Contact
CE-OPT000013	Sarah Anne Flanagan
CE-OPT000015	Michael Henry Leary
CE-OPT000014	Michael Henry Leary
OPT003723	Veronica Byun
OPT003724	Carrie M Joseph
OPT003725	Bayinah Elyaman
OPT003726	Jennifer Nguyen
OPT003727	Jevaughn Lance Gibbs
OPT003728	Isabella Pabon Lozano
OPT003729	Rodney L Jacob
OPT003730	Todd J Fettig
OPT003731	Jami Ann White
OPT003732	Natalene Agop

OPT003733	Philip Kim
OPT003735	Joshua James Hopkins
OPT003734	Stephanie Irene King
OPT003736	Lauren Ashlyn King
OPT003737	Lopasteeda Derosa Stephens
OPT003738	Vivian Owanimedu Ekemezie
TOTAL	19

Dr. Hackleman moved, Dr. McCullough seconded, and the Board voted to approve the application ratify list as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Correspondence:

- J. Norman – Prescribing

Recommendation:

No. Patient must seek prescription from an approved rheumatologist

Public Rules Hearing Conducted: 10:15 a.m.

Dr. Ajamian called the Public Rules Hearing to Order at 10:22 a.m.

There were no written submissions received during the minimum of thirty days' posting of rules for public input , and no oral comments were made during today's public hearing of all Board rules presented below.

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

❖ Rule 430-5-.02 Contents of Prescriptions for Contact Lenses and Spectacles

- (1) A contact lens is any device placed on the anterior of the surface of the eye for refractive, cosmetic, diagnostic, or therapeutic purposes.
- (2) All parameters for fabrication of the lenses must be included.
- (3) Prescription for contact lenses shall clearly state an expiration date of not more than one (1) year past the date the lens specifications were determined and a date of less than one (1) year from the date the lens specifications were determined is permissible only when indicated by a patient's medical condition that affects the patient's vision or a refractive problem. No doctor of optometry shall ~~replace~~provide contact lenses from data, which is more than ~~three (3) years past the date the lens specifications were determined~~twenty-four (24) months old. No doctor of optometry shall ~~replace contact lens from data, which is more than three (3) years old, nor shall he/she provide the specifications, which would enable another provider to replace such lenses. He/She~~ They may provide such expired specifications to another licensed doctor of optometry, medicine, or doctor of osteopathy for the purpose of adding to a new data base from which to determine new lens specifications.
- (4) Prescription for spectacles shall clearly state an expiration date of not more than two (2) years past the date the lens specifications were determined and a date of less than one (1) year from the date the spectacle specifications were determined is permissible only when indicated by a patient's medical condition that affects the patient's vision or a refractive problem. No doctor of optometry shall provide spectacles from data, which is more than twenty-four (24) months old. They may provide such expired specifications to another licensed doctor of optometry, medicine, or doctor of osteopathy for the purpose of adding to a new database from which to determine new spectacle specifications.

Statutory Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 31-12-12 and 43-30-5.

Dr. McCullough motioned, Dr. Fitzgerald seconded, and the Board voted to adopt Board Rule 430-5-.01. Treatment Plans, Eye Examinations, and Patient Records as posted and presented. None opposed, motion carried.

In addition, Dr. Perrine motioned, Dr. McCullough seconded and the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of all above rules does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-30-5, and 31-12-12(a)(3), (b)(1)(c) and that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-30-5, and 31-12-12(a)(3), (b)(1)(c) to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of these rules will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of Optometry.

Dr. Hackleman motioned, Dr. Fitzgerald seconded, and the Board voted that the memo of statutory authority for all the rule revisions heard this date to be released to the Governor's office as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Board Rules Discussion:

- Rule 430-5-.01 Treatment Plans, Eye Examinations, and Patient Records – Refer to AG's office for MOA

Dr. McCullough moved, Dr. Perrine seconded, and the Board voted to approve proposed rule amendments to Board Rules 430-5-.01 Treatment Plans, Eye Exams & Patient Records and refer to the AG's office for review and memo of statutory authority, posting the rule upon receipt for the minimum thirty days for public view with a public rule hearing to be scheduled for the next available date following the public posting. None opposed, motion carried.

Dr. McCullough moved, Dr. Fitzgerald seconded, and the Board voted to enter Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. §43-1-19(h)(2) and 43-1-2(k) to review Applications, review the executive session minutes, receive the Cognizant (Complaints) and Assistant Attorney General reports. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Ajamian, Perrine, McCullough, Hackleman, Fitzgerald, Parker.

At the conclusion of Executive Session on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, Dr. Ajamian declared the meeting back into "open" pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq. No votes were obtained during the closed session.

Applications: *None*

Cognizant Report:

- ❖ **Recommend Closure:** OPT240013, OPT260005, OPT260006, OPT260008, OPT260011
- ❖ **Pending Peer Reviewer:** OPT240016
- ❖ **Pending in AG's Office:** OPT220010 & 220012 *P. Ajamian Recused, OPT210012 & 230015, OPT230017, OPT240001
- ❖ **Schedule for Investigative Interview:** OPT260009 *P. Ajamian Recused
- ❖ **Pending Receipt of Additional Information:** OPT260007

Dr. Fitzgerald moved, Dr. Hackleman seconded, and the Board voted to approve the recommendations of the Cognizant report on complaints as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Attorney General's Report:

Eric Yi, Assistant Attorney General provided a written status report which included information on any cases referred for action, requests for advice and /or requests for authority for proposed rules.

- K.K. – Counterproposal – Accept as presented

Dr. Fitzgerald moved, Dr. Hackleman seconded, and the Board voted to approve the counterproposal offer received from K.K. as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Dr. Fitzgerald moved, Dr. Hackleman seconded, and the Board voted to approve the Assistant Attorney General's report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Executive Misc. Discussion Items:

- **Live CE Hours for Renewal** – Pending receipt of additional information from Dr. Ajamian
- **Injectables– Dr. McCullough**
 - Following discussion, Board voted to request legal guidance regarding its authority under Georgia law to determine whether coursework completed through an accredited school or college of optometry satisfies the educational requirements established by SB153 relating to the administration of injections.
- **EPI-On Corneal Cross-Linking – Dr. Perrine**
 - Following discussion, it was determined that additional information is required for the AG's office to provide the Board with an official memorandum of advice. Dr. Perrine and Dr. Ajamian will provide additional information.

Dr. Perrine moved, Dr. Hackleman seconded, and the Board voted to refer the matter of Injectables to the AG's office for an official memorandum of advice as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Executive Session Minutes:

- February 18, 2026 CC Board Meeting

Recommendation:

Approve as presented

Dr. Perrine moved, Dr. Hackleman seconded, and the Board voted to approve the February 18, 2026 Executive Session Board Meeting Conference Call meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

There being no further business for discussion, the Board meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Minutes recorded by:

Linsey Joiner, Board Support Specialist

Minutes reviewed and edited by:

Amanda Allen, Licensing Supervisor

DR. PAUL AJAMIAN

President

AMANDA ALLEN

Executive Director HC1

Minutes reviewed and approved **August 26, 2026**

State of Georgia
County of Bibb

**Affidavit Supporting Closing
Of Public Meeting**

The Georgia Open Meetings Act, O.C.G.A. 50-14-1 et seq., requires that all meetings of an entity covered by the statute must be open to the public unless there is some specific statutory exception which permits the closing of the meeting. If such a meeting is to be closed, the law requires that the presiding person execute a sworn affidavit stating that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the statutory exceptions and identifying those specific exceptions relied upon. O.C.G.A. Sec. 50-14-4(b). A copy of this affidavit must be filed with the minutes of the meeting in question:

Comes now, Dr. Paul Ajamian, the presiding officer identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.

1. I am the presiding officer of the **Georgia Board of Optometry**.
2. I am over the age of 18 and in all other aspects competent to make this sworn statement. I acknowledge that I am giving this statement under oath and penalty of perjury and that I have read the contents of this affidavit prior to signing it.
3. On May 20, 2020 this entity, which is subject to the Open Meetings Act, met. A majority of the quorum of the members present voted to close the meeting or a portion thereof for the following indicated reason(s). I hereby certify that during the closed portion of the meeting, only those subjects indicated below were discussed. I also certify that I have reviewed the exceptions provided under the Open Meetings Act that may permit the closing of a meeting and that, to the best of my knowledge, the reasons I have described in detail below meet the requirements for closing this public meeting.
4. The legal authority for the closure of this meeting was §§§ 43-1-2(k), 43-1-19(h), and 50-14-2(1).
5. The subject(s) discussed and the underlying facts supporting the closing of this meeting are:
Receive and review disciplinary/complaint files and reports; review applications; meet with applicants; receive the Attorney General's Report; and review Executive Session minutes.

Further the affiant sayeth not.

with Express Permission
Amanda Allen, Executive Director

Paul Ajamian
(Presiding Officer)

Sworn and subscribed before me,

This 20 day of May 2020

Jimmy Jome
Notary Public

