

64B13-4.001 Examination Requirements.

(1) The Florida licensure examination authorized in Section 463.006 (2), F.S., shall consist of the following parts:

(a) Part I – a written examination on applicable Florida laws and rules governing the practice of optometry developed by the Florida Department of Health;

(b) Part II – a practical examination containing a clinical portion and a pharmacology/ocular disease portion developed by the Florida Department of Health;

(c) Part III – the Applied Basic Science portion of the examination developed by the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO); and

(d) Part IV – the Patient Assessment and Management Clinical Science portion of the examination developed by the NBEO.

(2) An applicant must achieve a passing grade on all four parts of the Florida licensure examination. A score of 84 percent or better must be obtained in order to achieve a passing score on Part I of the Florida licensure examination. A score of 80 percent or better must be obtained on each section of Part II in order to achieve a passing score on Part II of the Florida licensure examination. Passing scores for Part III and Part IV on the Florida licensure examination are established by the NBEO. Given the constant advances in research and developing knowledge in the area of basic and clinical sciences as applied to the diagnosis, correction, remedy, and relief of insufficiencies or abnormal conditions of the human eyes and their appendages, passing scores on Part III and Part IV of the Florida licensure examination must be obtained within the 7 5 year period immediately preceding June October 1 of the year that the applicant takes Parts I and II of the Florida licensure examination. Provided, however, an applicant must submit qualifying passing scores on Part III and Part IV no later than July 1 of the year the applicant applies to take Parts I and II of the Florida licensure examination.

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(4) Certification Examination. A licensee applying for certification must obtain a passing grade on the TMOD part of the Patient Assessment and Management portion of the NBEO or must have obtained a passing score on the state certification examination.

(3) Part II of the Florida licensure examination shall consist of a clinical portion and a pharmacology/ocular disease portion. ***Each subject area will be tested on every exam but not every topic in that subject area will be tested on every exam.***

(a) The subject areas and associated weights for the clinical portion of Part II shall be as follows:

1. Confrontation Visual Field Testing for Neurologic Deficit (Finger Counting Visual Field Recognition, Location, and Disease Process)	7-12%
2. Muscle Balance and Motility	2-7%
3. Pupillary Examination	8-13%
4. Objective Examination (Retinoscopy)	1-6%
5. Subjective Refraction	1-6%
6. Internal Examination by Means of Binocular Indirect Ophthalmoscopy	15-20%
7. Biomicroscopy Anterior	17-22%
8. Biomicroscopy Posterior (Fundus Lens)	16-21%
9. Goldmann Tonometry	9-14%

10. Gonioscopy	6-11%
(b) The grading criteria for each subject area and the points associated with each criterion shall be as follows:	
1. Confrontation Visual Field Testing for Neurologic Deficit (Finger Counting and Visual Field Defect Recognition, Location, and Disease Process) — Conducts specified visual field test in a manner consistent with obtaining accurate findings. Accurately identify visual field defect name, location, and disease process.	6-11
2. Muscle Balance and Motility Testing — Conducts examinations in a manner that will allow for evaluation of any phoric and or tropic posture, deficiencies in extra ocular muscles, or cranial nerve paresis.	3-8
3. Pupillary Examination — Conducts pupillary tests in a manner consistent with obtaining accurate findings.	5-10
4. Objective Examination (Retinoscopy) — Conducts Retinoscopy in a manner capable of obtaining a visual acuity of 20/30.	2-7
5. Subjective Refraction — Conducts refraction in a manner capable of obtaining a visual acuity of 20/20.	2-7
6. Internal Examination by Means of Binocular Indirect Ophthalmoscopy — Accurately views and evaluates retinal landmark as requested.	16-21
7. Biomicroscopy (Anterior) — Uses proper technique to demonstrate requested views of anterior structures of eye.	20-25
8. Biomicroscopy Posterior (Fundus lens) — Accurately views and evaluates posterior landmarks as requested.	16-21
9. Tonometry — Demonstrates accurate technique for the measurement of intra ocular pressure.	7-12
10. Gonioscopy — Demonstrates accurate technique for identifying angle structures.	4-9
1. Ocular Metrics- Ocular Coherence Tomography, Retinal Photography, Corneal Topography , Ultrasound (B scan/A scan), Electro Diagnostic Testing (ERG, VEP, EOG)	7-12%
Recognition, Location, and Disease Process)	
2. Neuro- Optometric Testing- Muscle Balance and Motility/ Pupillary Examination/ Visual Field Testing for Neurologic Deficit- (Finger Counting Visual Field	10-20%
3. Refractive Testing- Objective Examination (Retinoscopy)/ Subjective Refraction	2-12%
4. Internal Anatomical Ocular Examination by Means of Direct and Binocular Indirect Ophthalmoscopy/ Posterior (Fundus Lens)	15-20%
5. External Anatomical Ocular Examination- (Biomicroscopy Anterior)	33-43%
6. Internal Ocular Fluid Dynamics- Goldmann Tonometry, . Gonioscopy, Pachymetry, Ocular Blood Flow	15-25%

(b) The grading criteria for each subject area and the points associated with each criterion shall be as follows:

1. Ocular Metrics — Conducts specified test's in a manner consistent with obtaining accurate findings. Accurately identify name, location, and disease process.	6-11
2. Neuro- Optometric Testing- Muscle Balance and Motility Testing — Conducts examinations in a manner that will allow for evaluation of any phoric and or tropic posture, deficiencies in extra ocular muscles, or cranial nerve paresis.	8-18
Pupillary Examination — Conducts pupillary tests in a manner consistent with obtaining accurate findings.	
3. Refractive Testing- Objective Examination (Retinoscopy) — Conducts Retinoscopy in a manner capable of obtaining a visual acuity of 20/30.	
Subjective Refraction — Conducts refraction in a manner capable of obtaining a visual acuity of 20/20.	4-14
4. Internal Anatomical Ocular Examination by Means of Direct and Binocular Indirect Ophthalmoscopy — 16-21	
Accurately views and evaluates / Biomicroscopy Posterior (Fundus lens) — Accurately views and evaluates posterior landmarks as requested	

5. *External Anatomical Ocular Examination- Biomicroscopy (Anterior) – Uses proper technique to demonstrate requested views of anterior structures of eye.* 36-46

6. *External Anatomical Ocular Examination- Tonometry – Demonstrates accurate technique for the measurement of intra-ocular pressure.*

Gonioscopy – Demonstrates accurate technique for identifying angle structures.

11-21

Gonioscopy – Demonstrates accurate technique for identifying angle structures.

Pachimetry – Demonstrates accurate technique for identifying corneal thickness

Ocular Blood Flow– Demonstrates ability to read results or accurate technique for identifying blood flow

(c) Each candidate shall be required to provide one person who meets the criteria listed below to serve as a patient in the examination. An individual may serve as the patient for only one candidate. In the event that the first person provided by the candidate to serve as a patient is examined by the Department and found not to meet the criteria listed below, the candidate shall have one additional opportunity within two hours after being notified of the rejection of his or her patient to present another person to serve as a patient. The individual which a candidate provides to serve as a patient in the examination shall:

1. Be an alert, responsive, English-speaking adult between the ages of 18 and 65,
2. Eye to be refracted has spherical objective and subjective error calibrated in minus cylinder form within + 6.00D to - 6.00D and has an astigmatic correction objectively and subjectively within + 4.00D to - 4.00D including plano,
3. Eye to be refracted is correctable to 20/20 vision; the other eye correctable to 20/50 or better,
4. Has not worn hard or gas permeable contact lens within three months of the examination,
5. Has not worn extended wear or soft wear contact lenses the day of the examination,
6. Both eyes be safe to dilate, and
7. Shall not be, nor have ever been licensed in any state as an optometrist, be an optometry student, be an optometric or ophthalmic technician, or in any way connected with the practice of optometry or with any vision-oriented profession or business.

(d) An applicant must attain a score of 80 percent or better in order to secure a passing grade on the clinical portion of the practical examination.

(e) Items on the pharmacology/pathology portion of the practical examination are distributed according to the following content emphasis: *Each subject area will be tested on every exam but not every topic in that subject area will be tested on every exam.*

1. Group A:

Number of Case History Items: 7 cases

Eye Structure: ~~Adnexa (lids, lashes, lacrimal, apparatus), Conjunctiva (bulbar and palpebral), Sclera/episclera, Cornea, Iris/ciliary body~~

Disease Type: ~~Toxic, Inflammatory, Infectious.~~

2. Group B:

Number of Case History Items: 4 cases

Eye Structures: ~~Lens, Vitreous, Retina/choroid, Macular disease~~

Disease Type: ~~Congenital, Degenerative, Dystrophic Vascular, Traumatic~~

3. Group C:

Number of Case History Items: 2 cases

Eye Structure: ~~Lens, Vitreous, Retina/choroid, Macular disease~~

Disease Type: ~~Toxic, Inflammatory, Infectious~~

4. Group D:

Number of Case History Items: 2 cases

Eye Structures: ~~Cornea, Iris/ciliary body, Lens, Vitreous, Retina/choroid, Macular disease~~

Disease Type: ~~Surgical Complications~~

5. Group E:

Number of Case History Items: 2 cases

Eye Structures: ~~Cornea, Iris/ciliary body~~

Disease Type: Congenital, Degenerative, Dystrophic Vascular, Traumatic

6. Group F:

Number of Case History Items: 3 cases

Disease Type: Primary and Secondary Open and Closed Angle Glaucoma

7. Group G:

Number of Case History Items: 3 cases

Eye Structures: Neurological Disease (optic nerve, Visual pathway, orbit, motility)

8. Group H:

Number of Case History Items: 2 cases

Eye Structures: Adnexa (lids, lashes, lacrimal apparatus), Conjunctiva (bulbar and palpebral), Sclera/episclera, Cornea, Iris/ciliary body, Lens, Vitreous, Retina/choroid, Muscular disease, Glaucoma, Neurological Disease (optic nerve, Visual pathway, orbit)

Disease Type: Tumors

(f) An applicant must attain a score of 80 percent or better in order to secure a passing grade on the pharmacology/pathology portion of the practical examination.

(4) Certification Examination. A licensee applying for certification must obtain a passing score on the TMOD part of the NBEO or must have obtained a passing score on the state certification examination.

1. Group A:

Number of Items: 7 / 28 Questions

Eye Structure: Adnexa (lids, lashes, lacrimal apparatus), Conjunctiva (bulbar and palpebral), Sclera/episclera, Cornea, Iris/ciliary body

Disease Type: Toxic, Inflammatory, Infectious.

2. Group B:

Number of Items: 4 / 16 Questions

Eye Structures: Lens, Vitreous, Retina/choroid, Macular disease

Disease Type: Congenital, Degenerative, Dystrophic Vascular, Traumatic

3. Group C:

Number of Items: 2 / 9 Questions

Eye Structure: Lens, Vitreous, Retina/choroid, Macular disease

Disease Type: Toxic, Inflammatory, Infectious

4. Group D:

Number of Items: 2 / 9 Questions

Eye Structures: Cornea, Iris/ciliary body, Lens, Vitreous, Retina/choroid, Macular disease

Disease Type: Surgical Complications

5. Group E:

Number of Items: 2 / 9 Questions

Eye Structures: Cornea, Iris/ciliary body

Disease Type: Congenital, Degenerative, Dystrophic Vascular, Traumatic

6. Group F:

Number of Items: 3 / 12 Questions

Disease Type: Primary and Secondary Open and Closed Angle Glaucoma

7. Group G:

Number Items: 3 / 10 Questions

Eye Structures: Neurological Disease (optic nerve, Visual pathway, orbit, motility)

8. Group H:

Number of Items: 2 / 10 Questions

Eye Structures: Adnexa (lids, lashes, lacrimal apparatus), Conjunctiva (bulbar and palpebral), Sclera/episclera, Cornea, Iris/ciliary body, Lens, Vitreous, Retina/choroid, Muscular disease, Glaucoma, Neurological Disease (optic nerve, Visual pathway, orbit)

Disease Type: Tumors

(f) An applicant must attain a score of 80 percent or better in order to secure a passing grade on the pharmacology/pathology portion of the practical examination.

(4) Certification Examination. A licensee applying for certification must obtain a passing score on the TMOD part of the NBE0 or must have obtained a passing score on the state certification examination.

Rulemaking Authority 456.017(1), 463.005, 463.006(2) FS. Law Implemented 456.017(1), 463.006(2) FS. History—New 11-13-79, Amended 5-28-80, 7-10-80, 8-20-81, 2-14-82, 6-6-82, 10-3-82, 4-10-84, 5-29-85, Formerly 21Q-4.01, Amended 7-21-86, 11-20-86, 7-27-87, 7-11-88, 7-18-91, 4-14-92, Formerly 21Q-4.001, Amended 2-14-94, Formerly 61F8-4.001, Amended 8-8-94, 11-21-94, 4-21-96, Formerly 59V-4.001, Amended 7-27-99, 7-15-02, 3-8-04, 4-22-10, 10-13-10.