



South Carolina
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation



Board of Examiners in Opticianry

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Board of Examiners in Opticianry – Revised Apprenticeship Program

On June 26, 2020, amendments to [S.C. Regulation 96-106: Apprenticeship Registration and Program Provisions](#) became effective. Below is a summary of the changes to the apprenticeship program:

- **Part-time Employment Allowance:** Apprentices may now be employed on a part-time basis (minimum of twenty-one (21) hours per week but less than thirty-two (32) hours per week). Part-time employed apprentices must complete three (3) continuous years of directly supervised work experience. Full-time employed apprentices must complete two (2) continuous years of directly supervised work experience.
- **Multiple Sponsors:** Apprentices may have more than one sponsor but must be under the supervision of a sponsor at all times during the apprenticeship. A primary sponsor must be designated.
- **Evaluations:** Program evaluation will be required to be submitted every six (6) months until completion of the apprenticeship.
- **Formal Education Enrollment Deadline:** Evidence of enrollment in a Board-approved formal education program must be submitted within six (6) months of the apprentice program commencement date.

These changes do not apply to active Registered Apprentices who were approved prior to June 26, 2020. Registered apprentices who applied on or after June 26, 2020 must follow the program guidelines in the revised regulations and will be notified of the apprenticeship requirements. Revised forms will be available on the Board's Applications and Forms page, <https://www.llr.sc.gov/opti/pub.aspx>.

Licensees and other members of the public needing assistance are encouraged to visit the Board website at www.llr.sc.gov/opti or send an email to contact.opticianry@llr.sc.gov or call 803-896-4681.