

Notice of Election - Accepting Nominations for Board Member Election

This notice serves to announce an election for the South Carolina Board of Examiners in Opticianry. The South Carolina Opticianry Practice Act states the Board consists of seven members. Five members must be licensed opticians appointed by the Governor upon nomination by all licensed opticians in this State through an election conducted by the Board ([S.C. Code of Law §40-38-10](#)). Ms. Emily Mikell currently holds the seat position that expired on May 11, 2026.

An election will be conducted for board seat term May 11, 2026 – May 11, 2030. Candidates and voters for election must have a current license to practice as an optician in South Carolina.

NOMINATION PROCESS:

- All candidates for election, including incumbents, must be nominated on an official [election petition form](#) signed by not less than ten South Carolina licensed opticians qualified to vote in the election. An official petition form can be obtained from the Board website at <https://www.llr.sc.gov/opti/>. Petitions must include original signatures.
- Petitions to place nominees on the ballot must be received in this office no later than **August 19, 2026**. Petitions received after that date will not be considered for this election. Petitions sent by fax will not be accepted. Petitions may be mailed to the Board office or emailed to contact.opticianry@llr.sc.gov.
- If more than three nominations are received, then ballots will be prepared with the names of nominees and sent to each optician licensed in South Carolina. Voters will be given approximately 30 days to return the ballot by mail to the Board office or scanned and emailed to contact.opticianry@llr.sc.gov. Ballots sent by fax will not be accepted.
- After voting has closed, the ballots received will be counted. The top two (2) nominees receiving the most votes will be submitted to the Governor. The Governor may reject any or all of the nominees upon satisfactory showing as to the unfitness of those rejected. If the Governor declines to appoint any of such nominees so submitted, additional nominees shall be submitted in the same manner.

Deadline: Petitions must be emailed or postmarked on or before August 19, 2026.

Patrice S. Deas,
Board Executive