



South Carolina
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation



Board of Examiners in Optometry

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Henry D. McMaster
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April 1, 2020

Board of Examiners in Optometry Recommendation: COVID-19

In accordance with the recommendation from the Governor of the State of South Carolina, the Board recommends licensees follow [CDC](#) and [DHEC](#) guidelines in limiting practice to only essential personnel and emergency patients through April 11, 2020.

The Board supports continued optometric services through any method of practice within your scope of practice that complies with the applicable standard of care, including telehealth for the period of State of Emergency as declared by the Governor of the State of South Carolina. If you elect to utilize telehealth, the Board suggests that you review the AOA's recommendations.

The recommendations outlined above from the Board are recommendations only and not a mandate.

The South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation is currently restricting the public from entering the LLR Kingstree Building. However, the board staff is working remotely and will assist you as quickly as they can. Licensees and other members of the public needing assistance are encouraged to visit the Board website at www.llr.sc.gov or 803-896-4679 or email to contact.optometry@llr.sc.gov.

The Board will be reviewing the effects of cancelled continuing education courses and renewals at the next scheduled Board Meeting on May 6, 2020. Information regarding the Board's decision will be posted following the meeting.

The Board will continue to monitor the situation and will communicate updates via email and Board website. Over the next few weeks, the Board encourages both the public and licensees to remain calm and take appropriate action to decrease the transmission of COVID-19.

Sincerely,

South Carolina Board of Examiners in Optometry