



South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation



Board of Examiners in Optometry

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Henry D. McMaster
Governor

Emily H. Farr
Director

September 14, 2020

TO: Licensed Optometrists

RE: Notice of Election – Candidate Submission

Pursuant to South Carolina Code Section 40-37-10, the Board of Examiners in Optometry will conduct an election for the optometrist-held Board seat expiring 06/30/2020. The Board is seeking candidates wishing to be placed on the ballot for election. The top candidate receiving the most votes will be sent to the Governor for consideration.

ELIGIBILITY FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD and VOTING REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Each candidate for a Board seat must be a licensed optometrist residing in South Carolina.
- 2) The members of the Board serve terms of four years and may not serve more than two consecutive four-year terms.
- 3) Every licensed optometrist in the State, regardless of years of practice, is eligible to vote in the election.

GETTING ON THE BALLOT and ELECTION PROCEDURES

- 4) Nominations of candidates must be made to the Board by written petition postmarked on or before **October 2, 2020**. A copy of the petition may be obtained through the Optometry Board's website at <https://www.llr.sc.gov/opto/>. In addition to the petition, all candidates must submit a short bio. Any person who is nominated by valid petition may withdraw his or her name by written notice to the Board. If only one candidate is nominated, he or she will be submitted to the Governor for his consideration.
- 5) If more than one candidate is nominated, ballots must be prepared with the names of the nominees in alphabetical order. Ballots will be accessible via the Board's online voting portal and notification will be sent to eligible licensed optometrists. Instructions for voting will be included in the notification. If you do not have a UserID for the LLR Licensee Portal, please contact Board staff for assistance. Voting will close approximately two weeks after notifications are sent out.
- 6) After voting has closed, the ballots received will be counted. The candidate receiving the most votes will be sent to the Governor for consideration. The Governor may reject the nominee upon satisfactory showing as to the nominee's unfitness. If the Governor declines to appoint the nominee, the name of the person who came in 2nd place in the number of votes shall be submitted to the Governor in the same manner for appointment consideration. This method of nominee submittal based on number of votes shall continue until such time as the Governor makes an appointment.