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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE
BOARD OF OPTOMETRY**

**MINUTES
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE**

December 20, 2013

General Board Business started: 7:01 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

Dr. Timothy Underhill, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:01 a.m. Those present for all or part of the meeting included the following:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Timothy Underhill, O.D., Chair
Terrance Naberhaus, O.D., Vice-Chair
Tamara Maule, O.D.
Stuart Kaplan, O.D.
Christopher King, O.D., F.A.A.O.
Rosa McNaughton, J.D., M.S.

BOARD MEMBER NOT PRESENT:

Rod Presnell, R.Ph. (not excused)

BOARD STAFF:

Bill Miller, Executive Director
Sharon Guilford, Program Operations Administrator
Jose Montalvan, Regulatory Supervisor/Consultant

BOARD COUNSEL:

Larry Harris, Assistant Attorney General
Office of Attorney General

DISCUSSION OF RULE:

The board discussed and action was taken on the following rules:

- **64B13-4.001, Florida Administrative Code**

64B13-4.001 Examination Requirements.

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

1 (a) Part I – the Applied Basic Science (ABS) portion of the examination developed by
2 the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) a written examination on
3 applicable Florida laws and rules governing the practice of optometry developed by the
4 Florida Department of Health;

5 (b) Part II – the Patient Assessment and Management (PAM) portion of the examination
6 developed by the NBEO which includes an embedded Treatment and Management of
7 Ocular Disease (TMOD) examination. An applicant for licensure in Florida must obtain
8 a passing score on the TMOD section of the examination a practical examination
9 containing a clinical portion and a pharmacology/ocular disease portion developed by the
10 Florida Department of Health;

11 (c) Part III – the Clinical Skills (CSE) portion of the examination developed by the
12 NBEO. In addition to an overall passing score on the CSE portion, an applicant for
13 licensure in Florida must obtain a score of 75 percent (75%) or better on the
14 Biomicroscopy, Binocular Indirect Ophthalmoscopy, and Dilated Biomicroscopy and
15 Non-Contact Fundus Lens Evaluation skills the Applied Basic Science portion of the
16 examination developed by the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO); and

17 (d) Part IV – a written examination on applicable Florida laws and rules governing the
18 practice of optometry developed by the Florida Department of Health, which may not be
19 taken prior to graduation from a school or college of optometry and application for
20 licensure. the Patient Assessment and Management portion of the examination developed
21 by the NBEO.

22 (2) An applicant for licensure must achieve a passing score grade on all four parts of the
23 Florida licensure examination. A score of 84 percent (84%) or better must be obtained in
24 order to achieve a passing score on Part IV I of the Florida licensure examination. A
25 score of 80 percent or better must be obtained on each section of Part II in order to
26 achieve a passing score on Part II of the Florida licensure examination. Passing scores
27 for Part I, Part II, and Part III and Part IV of the Florida licensure examination are
28 established by the NBEO. Given constant advances in research, and developing
29 knowledge in the area of basic and clinical science as applied to the diagnosis, correction,
30 remedy, and relief of insufficiencies or abnormal conditions of the human eyes and their
31 appendages, variances in the scope of optometric practice among the states, and the
32 importance of fundamental clinical skills to patient health and safety, passing scores on
33 Part I, Part II, and Part III and Part IV of the Florida licensure examination must be
34 obtained within the seven (7) year period immediately preceding June 1 of the year that
35 the applicant takes Parts I and II of the Florida licensure examination application to take
36 Part IV of the licensure examination. Provided, however, an applicant must submit
37 qualifying passing scores on Part III and Part IV no later than July 1 of the year the
38 applicant applies to take Parts I and II of the Florida licensure examination.

39 (3) [Deleted in its entirety]

40 (3 4) Certification Examination. A licensee applying for certification must obtain a
41 passing score on either the TMOD examination embedded in the Patient Assessment and
42 Management portion of the examination developed by the NBEO or a passing score on
43 the stand alone TMOD examination developed by the NBEO the TMOD part of the
44 Patient Assessment and Management portion of the NBEO or must have obtained a
45 passing score on the state certification examination.

1 **Skills Contained in Part III, the Clinical Skills (CSE) portion, of the NBEO**
2 **examination**

3
4 Dr. King provided a summary of the Skills contained in Part III, the clinical Skills (CSE)
5 portion of the NBEO examination. He stated that if the board determined to require
6 passing scores in all skill areas the passing rate would be low. He also provided an update
7 on North Carolina's requirements. North Carolina requires the successful passing of
8 three specific skills.

9
10 Dr. Jack Terry, Executive Director with the National Board of Examiners in Optometry,
11 provided an overview of the NBEO examination especially the Skills contained in Part
12 III.

13
14 The board determined the following skills would be required to successfully pass the
15 NBEO examination:

- 16 • 9 Biomicroscopy
- 17 • 18 Binocular Indirect Ophthalmoscopy
- 18 • 19 Dilated Biomicroscopy and Non-Contact Fundus Lens Evaluation

19
20 **After a lengthy discussion, Dr. Naberhaus moved to approve the changes in Rule**
21 **64B13-4.001(1)(a), F.A.C. The motion was seconded and carried 6/0.**

22
23 **Dr. Naberhaus moved to require the passing scores in the areas of Biomicroscopy,**
24 **Binocular Indirect Ophthalmoscopy, and the Dilated Biomicroscopy and Non-**
25 **Contact Fundus Lens Evaluation of the NBEO examination. The motion was**
26 **seconded and carried 6/0.**

27
28 **Dr. Naberhaus moved that 75% shall be the passing score in the three areas. The**
29 **motion was seconded and carried 6/0.**

- 30
31 • **64B13-4.002, Florida Administrative Code**

32
33 **64B13-4.002 Reexamination.**

34 An applicant who fails to achieve a passing score on Part IV ~~I or Part II~~ of the state
35 examination for licensure shall be required to retake only that portion of the licensure
36 examination on which he or she failed to achieve a passing grade, provided that the
37 applicant shall be limited to two (2) retakes within a ~~twelve (12)~~ twenty-eight (28) month
38 period from the date of the original failure. The Board may grant an extension of time of
39 one additional year to allow a second retake based on medical disability substantiated by
40 documentation from the applicant's physician. If the applicant fails to achieve a passing
41 score ~~grade~~ on Part IV as provided above, the applicant's passing scores on Part I, Part II,
42 and Part III of the licensure examination (including scores of 75% or better on the three
43 skills identified in Rule 64B13-4.001(1)(c)) must have been obtained within the time
44 period set forth in Rule 64B13-4.001 (2) before the applicant will be allowed any further
45 attempts to obtain a passing score on Part IV ~~he or she shall be required to take the~~

1 ~~complete state examination for licensure and certification examination in order to be~~
2 ~~entitled to be licensed.~~

3
4 **Dr. Naberhaus moved to approve the above changes to Rule 64B13-4.002, F.A.C.**
5 **The motion was seconded and carried 6/0.**

6
7 • **64B13-4.003, Florida Administrative Code**

8
9 **64B13-4.003 Examination Review Procedure**

10 An applicant is entitled to review his or her examination questions, answers, ~~papers,~~
11 ~~grades and grading key used on Part IV of the licensure examination in the state~~
12 ~~examination for licensure; however, no applicant may copy any materials provided for~~
13 ~~his or her review. Such review shall be conducted during regular business hours, in the~~
14 ~~presence of a representative of the Board at the Board's official headquarters. To~~
15 ~~schedule a review of Part IV, an applicant must request a review within twenty-one (21)~~
16 ~~days of the official score release date. An applicant is entitled to review his or her~~
17 ~~examination questions, answers, papers, grades and grading key used in Part I, Part II,~~
18 ~~and Part III of the licensure examination the National Board of Optometry examination to~~
19 ~~the extent authorized by security or access guidelines of the National Board of Examiners~~
20 ~~in Optometry national examination.~~

21
22 **Dr. Naberhaus moved to approve the above changes to Rule 64B13-4.003, F.A.C.**
23 **The motion was seconded and carried 6/0.**

24
25 • **64B13-4.004, Florida Administrative Code**

26
27 **64B13-4.004 Manner of Application**

28 (1) Any person desiring to be a licensed ~~as a certified optometrist practitioner~~ shall
29 apply to the department ~~to take the licensure examination.~~ The board will determine if an
30 applicant qualifies for licensure examination. The board will approve an each applicant
31 for licensure as a certified optometrist who:

32 (a) No change

33 (b) Submits satisfactory proof that the applicant:

34 1. through 2. No change

35 3. Has graduated from a school or college of optometry approved by the board which
36 has been accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) and
37 which remains accredited by ACOE.

38 4. 3. No change

39 5. 4. No change

40 6. Has successfully completed all parts of the licensure examination required by Rule
41 64B13-4.001, F.A.C.

42 (2) All applications for licensure as a certified optometrist examination shall be made
43 on the form titled "Application for Licensure as Certified Optometrist Optometry
44 Examination" number DH-MQA 1128 (Revised 12/13 5/10), which is hereby
45 incorporated by reference and can be obtained from the board office or at:
46 <http://www.floridasoptometry.gov/> <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/optometry>. All

1 applications for licensure as a certified optometrist examination shall include the
2 application fee as specified in subsection 64B13-6.001(7), F.A.C., the department
3 administrative cost as specified in Rule 64B-1.016, F.A.C., and the initial licensure fee as
4 specified in subsection 64B13-6.001(1), F.A.C. No application shall be deemed complete
5 which does not set forth all the information required by said forms and which fails to
6 include all fees as set forth in this rule. ~~Applications for licensure must be received by the~~
7 ~~Department at least 120 days prior to the examination.~~

8 (3) No change

9 (4) Any licensed practitioner licensed to practice optometry in Florida prior to July 1,
10 1993 who is not a certified optometrist and who desires to be licensed as a certified
11 optometrist shall apply to the department for certification. The board will approve a
12 licensed practitioner for licensure as a certified optometrist who satisfies the requirements
13 of subsection (1)(b)4. and 5. above, successfully completes the certification examination
14 set forth in Rule 64B13-4.001(3), F.A.C. and remits the fee established in Rule 64B13-
15 6.001(7) F.A.C.

16
17 **Dr. Naberhaus moved to approve the above changes to Rule 64B13-4.004, F.A.C.**
18 **The motion was seconded and carried 6/0.**

19
20 **NEXT MEETING DATE – March 21st – Orlando**

21
22 **General Business ended: 7:57 a.m.**

23
24 **ADJOURNMENT:**

25 The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 a.m.