



AMENDED Administrative Policy No 007

To: Council
From: Registrars
Date: June 23, 2015
Re: Administrative Policy on Approval of Continuing Education Seminars

CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSING:

Seminars in continuing education or ophthalmic practices provided by institutions not sponsored by the Council must be pre-approved by the Council, or its delegate, to qualify as Continuing Education Credits for licensing purposes. Seminars may also be approved for continuing education purposes through NACOR. To be approved as a continuing education seminar, the seminar must consist of at least one variety of professional development topics designed to improve and advance opticians/practicing members and contact lens practitioners' professional development.

Continuing education seminars must adhere to the NACOR core competencies and values as follows:

Categories of Acceptable Continuing Education and Competencies

There are five base categories of mandatory continuing education as follows:

1. Eyeglass Dispensing (EG);
2. Contact Lenses Dispensing (CL);
3. Eyeglass or Contact Lens (EC);
4. Professional Services (PS); and
5. Related Fields (RF).

The SCO will consider Continuing Education from the following sources:

- Canadian education institutions with accredited optician programs;
- Canadian provincial or national organization recognized by the College;
- Related organization or corporations approved by the College;
- Any module or presentation approved by NACOR; and
- Any module or presentation approved by the SCO Council.

Continuing Education Credits will be provided based upon the following criteria, and Credits will be issued based on the information provided, its complexity and completeness:

Eyeglass Dispensing (EG):

- Lens seminars, lens design, materials, and dispensing techniques;
- Frame seminars, materials, and advancements;
- Tints, coating sunglasses, transmission, and absorptive properties;
- Tools and adjustments;
- Equipment, such as diagnostic, surfacing, edging, vision screening;
- Ocular anatomy and physiology;
- Visual optics; and
- Others (as approved by the College).

Contact Lens Dispensing (CL):

- Ocular anatomy and physiology;
- Pharmacology;
- Lens design and manufacture;
- Lens material;
- Specialty lens fitting; and
- Others (as approved by the College).

Eyeglass or Contact Lens (EC):

Credits in this category represent topics that apply to both eyeglass and contact lens dispensing – Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Refraction;
- Vision Screening;
- Low Vision (emerging technology, techniques, etc.);
- Jurisprudence;
- Patient Management;
- Anatomy & or Ocular Pathology;
- Others (as approved by the College).

Professional Services (PS):

College members attending or serving on College Boards or Committees may receive Credits as follows for performing professional services:

- Attendance at the College Annual General Meeting (2 Credits per year);
- Continuing education lecture preparation & presentation (2 Credits per presentation);
- A written and published article on Opticianry (Maximum 4 Credits per year);

Related Fields (RF):

- Marketing techniques both internal and external;
- Personal human relationships;
- Ophthalmic surgical techniques and advances;
- Emergency medical courses CPR and emergency intervention;
- Other (as approved by the College).

Certification of Courses

Course attendance certificates must be completed by the sponsoring agency and given to the members.

All seminar materials and details must be sent to the College for approval, along with the completed SCO Seminar Accreditation Form, and may be subject to a fee for review and approval.

Approved by Council on July 16, 2015