Steps to Application

1. Fill out the NACOR examination application form.

2. Supply ALL information requested on the form.

3. Sign the Personal Affidavit on the back of the application form.

4. Enclose a cheque payable to NACOR for $725 or $1450 if you are sitting both the optical sciences 1 - eyeglass and optical sciences 2 – advanced practice contact lens examinations. If paying by Visa or Mastercard supply the necessary credit card information on your application form.

5. Candidates who are going to be applying for licensing in British Columbia or Alberta must include an official transcript from the school they attended.

6. Candidates who are going to be applying for licensing in Alberta must be registered as a Provisional Optician with the College of Opticians of Alberta. For further information on becoming registered as a Provisional Optician contact the College of Opticians of Alberta at 780-429-2694 or coa@opticians.ab.ca

7. Send your completed application along with payment to the NACOR office.

   NACOR
   2708-83 Garry St
   Winnipeg, MB
   R3C 4J9

8. If you require any special considerations during your examination due to disability, temporary illness, or extenuating circumstances a written letter to NACOR outlining your specific request along with the reasons for the request must be included with your application form. All pertinent information such as medical documents must be included with your request. Requests will be reviewed and acted upon by the National Examination Committee. Any decision reached by the National Examination Committee is final.

Approval of Application Forms

NACOR will contact the provincial regulatory body you indicated on your application form to verify your eligibility to sit the NACOR examination. If the provincial regulatory body deems you ineligible to sit the examination your application form will be returned to you and you will not be allowed to sit the examination.

Notification of Examination Details

The NACOR office will forward all eligible applications to the province hosting the examination. The host province will contact you by mail within two weeks of the application due date regarding the location, time, and date of your examination. Do not contact the NACOR office for this information as it is not supplied to the NACOR office by the host provinces.

Amended November 2011
Equipment

Candidates may bring their own optical equipment to the examination. The candidate is responsible for the accuracy of calibration of their own equipment. NACOR and the host province assume no responsibility for the candidate’s equipment. If the candidate does not bring their own equipment they will be required to use the equipment provided by NACOR and the host provinces. The examiner for each section will randomly assign the candidate to the equipment provided for that section. Candidates will not be permitted to choose the equipment. Programmable calculators are not permitted. Automated lensometers, radiuscopes and keratometers are not permitted. Candidates are responsible for supplying their own pens, pencils and erasers.

Refund of Examination Fees

Refunds will be issued by NACOR up until 14 days prior to the scheduled examination date. A candidate must receive prior approval by the host province to withdraw from the examination. A written explanation of the candidate’s reasons for not attending the examination must accompany the request for a refund.

Failure to Attend Scheduled Examination

Should a candidate be unable to attend the scheduled examination for a valid reason such as illness, immediately prior to, or on the same day as the examination, notification must be given immediately to the NACOR office. A message must be left at the NACOR office at 1-866-949-1950 or by email at exam@nacor.ca. Supporting documentation for missing the examination must be supplied. A candidate who does not attend the scheduled examination and who has failed to make the proper notification or who has made proper notification but is subsequently unable to supply supporting documentation, will forfeit all examination fees.

Delivery of Examination Marks

Candidates will be notified of their results by mail from the NACOR office. A copy of the results will also be forwarded to the candidate’s provincial regulatory board. The NACOR office will not release marks over the telephone. Marking will be completed within eight weeks of the examination date.
Review of Examination Marks

1. Candidates that fail the examination have the right to have their examination reviewed to have their areas of weakness identified. Reviews are done at the NACOR office and the results of the review will be mailed to the candidate. The purpose of the review is to give the candidate a general idea of where they were weak in a particular section. The review will not address specific questions in the examination and answers to questions will not be supplied to the candidate.

2. The sole purpose of an examination review is to identify the candidate’s areas of weakness. A candidate’s examination is not remarked during a review. Examinations that are within five percent of passing are automatically remarked prior to marks being released to the candidate.

3. Should a candidate wish to have their examination reviewed, a request must be submitted in writing to NACOR within 30 calendar days following receipt of examination results.

4. Candidates requesting a review must identify the examination section(s) they wish to have reviewed.

5. A fee of $35 per section must accompany a request for a review. Cheques must be made payable to NACOR.

Recognition of the NACOR Examination

Nine provincial regulatory bodies use the NACOR optical sciences 1 - eyeglass and optical sciences 2 – advanced practice contact lens examinations as a pathway to registration. The examinations are used in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Prince Edward Island.

Moderator

In order to achieve uniformity of examination delivery from province to province, a moderator supervises every sitting of a NACOR examination. The Moderator functions as a resource person for the local chief examiner, ensures the examination is administered according to the National Examination Administrative Policies, and acts as a mediator for examination candidates. The Moderator is always an optician from outside the host province.
OPTICAL SCIENCES 1
EYEGLASS EXAMINATION
**NACOR Optical Sciences 1 – Eyeglass Examination**

The NACOR optical sciences 1 - eyeglass examination measures 40 areas of competence broken down into 5 sections with 135 enabling objectives. One of the sections is knowledge-based and four of the sections are skills-based with clinical judgment-based sub-sets.

**Section 1 – Basic Dispensing and Lens Finishing Theory**

- 13% of exam
- 30 marks
- 55 minutes

**Section 2 - Lens Duplication - 39% of exam**

- 93 marks
- 75 minutes

**Section 3 – Measurement - 15% of exam**

- 36 marks
- 20 minutes

**Section 4 – Verification -19% of exam**

- 44 marks
- 60 minutes

**Section 5 – Service - 14% of exam**

- 33 marks
- 30 minutes

Within the 5 sections there is the possibility of achieving 236 marks. The passing mark for the optical sciences 1 - eyeglass examination is 144 marks or 61%. If a candidate fails the examination they must repeat the entire examination.

**Activities Performed in the Optical Sciences 1 - Eyeglass Examination**

**Section 1 – Basic Dispensing and Lens Finishing Theory**

This section is theoretical and requires clinical background and judgment-based skills. The candidate is given a series of scenarios to evaluate. In each scenario there is a set of lens specifications representing a work order sent to a lab along with a second set of lens specifications representing the actual eyeglasses that were delivered to the dispensary in return. The candidate is supplied with a tolerance chart and must determine, based on a comparison of what was ordered versus what was delivered, whether the lenses may be satisfactorily dispensed or returned to the lab. Answers for this section are to be based strictly on the tolerance chart supplied. Candidates will also be supplied with ten multiple choice questions and will be required to answer questions regarding lens layout, lens blank size, problem solving.

**Equipment Supplied:**

- Tolerance chart
Section 2 – Lens Duplication
The objective of this section is to test the candidate’s ability to neutralize lenses, using a lensometer, and to measure the physical aspects of the lenses using a lens clock, PD ruler, and thickness calipers. The candidate will be required to neutralize 5 pairs of eyeglasses, which will include single vision, multifocal and progressive lenses.

Equipment Supplied:
5 pairs of eyeglasses
1 lensometer
1 lens clock
1 thickness calliper
1 PD ruler
1 felt marker
1 lens cleaner
1 cleaning cloth

Section 3 – Measurement
In Part A of this section the candidate will be asked to take the monocular distance and near pupillary distance measurements of a live model using two different methods; a penlight and ruler and a pupilometer. For the penlight and ruler measurement the candidate may use any technique they wish, excluding the pupilometer. Candidates will be required to use the penlight and ruler first, and will not be allowed to go back and change their measurement after they have used the pupilometer.

In Part B of this section the candidate will be asked to take both the OD and OS vertex measurements of a live model fitted with a metal frame using a vertex distometer that has been compensated for eyelid thickness.

In Part C of this section the candidate will be asked to measure a live model for two pairs of progressive lenses using both a metal frame and a rimless frame. The candidate can use any technique they wish to obtain their measurements. For the progressive lens measurements the model’s pupil centre is to be used as the candidate’s reference point. The candidate will also be asked to measure the model for two pairs of flat-top bifocals using the same metal and rimless frame. For the flat-top bifocal measurements the model’s lower lid is to be used as the candidate’s reference point.

Equipment Supplied:
1 PD ruler
1 penlight
1 pupilometer
1 vertex distometer that has been compensated for eyelid thickness
1 pair of metal eyeglasses with plano lenses
1 pair of nylon mount eyeglasses with plano lenses
1 felt pen
1 scotch tape roll
1 segment measure
Section 4 – Verification
The candidate will be provided with 5 pairs of eyeglasses along with the work order on which each pair was based. The candidate will be asked to verify the five pairs of eyeglasses to their corresponding work orders and determine if each component of the eyeglasses is within tolerance. The candidate is to base their answers strictly on the tolerance chart supplied.

Equipment Supplied:
5 pairs of eyeglasses with corresponding work orders
1 lensometer
1 lens clock
1 thickness caliper
1 P.D. ruler
1 lens cleaner
1 cleaning cloth
tolerance chart

Section 5 – Service
In Part A of this section the candidate will be given a both a metal and plastic frame that are out of standard alignment. The candidate will be asked to first returned the metal frame to standard alignment and then return the plastic frame to standard alignment. The candidate can use any method they wish to adjust the frames. In Part B the candidate will be required to adjust the metal frame to a live model. The candidate can use any method they wish to adjust the frame. In Part C of this section the candidate will be required to insert a pair of lenses into a plastic frame and a single lens into a rimless nylon mount frame.

Equipment Supplied:
1 pair of eyeglasses in a metal frame
1 pair of eyeglasses in a plastic frame
1 pair of eyeglasses in a nylon mount frame
1 plastic frame with a set of precut lenses
1 PD ruler
1 hot air blower
variety of frame adjusting tools
1 ribbon
1 extra nylon eyewire
1 pair of scissors
TOLERANCE CHART

OPTICAL SCIENCES 1
EYEGLASSES EXAMINATION

SECTIONS 1 AND 4
During the optical sciences 1 - eyeglass examination you will be supplied with a copy of the following tolerance chart for sections one and four.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSPECTION ROUTINE</th>
<th>PROVISIONS AND TESTING PROCEDURES</th>
<th>TOLERANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Quality and Appearance</td>
<td>The lens must be inspected against a black background in light from an open-shaded 40 watt incandescent clear lamp with the lens 12 inches from the light source.</td>
<td>Pits, scratches, greyness, or water marks are not acceptable. Minute hairline scratches are acceptable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface Imperfections</td>
<td>(see above)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Defects</td>
<td>A high contrast grid pattern is viewed through the lens with the lens 12 inches from the eye.</td>
<td>Bubbles, striae, and inclusions are not acceptable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Localized Power Errors</td>
<td>(see above)</td>
<td>The grid must appear smoothly curved and gradually distorted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(see above)</td>
<td>Waves found by visual inspection are acceptable if no deterioration in image quality is found when the localized area is examined with a lensmeter, focimeter, or vertometer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Refractive Power (Sphere and Cylinder) | Power in each principle meridian is measured with a lensmeter, focimeter, or vertometer at the major reference point (MRP). | 0.00 to 6.00 D: ±0.06 D.  
6.25 to 12.00 D: ±1%.  
above 12.00 D: ±0.12 D.  
Maximum cylinder power variation: ±0.12 D.  
The difference in the refractive power error of the two lenses of a pair cannot exceed the tolerance specified for a single lens. |
| Untreated Glass Lenses              | (see above)                                                                                     | 0.00 to 6.00 D: ±0.12 D.  
6.25 to 12.00 D: ±2%.  
above 12.00 D: ±0.25 D.  
Maximum cylinder power variation: ±0.12 D.  
The difference in the refractive power error of the two lenses of a pair cannot exceed the tolerance specified for a single lens. For example |
<p>| Treated Glass/Impact Resistant and Plastic Lenses | (see above)                                                                                     |                                                                           |
|                                     |                                                                                                 |                                                                           |</p>
<table>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Refractive Power (Addition)</td>
<td>The power of the addition is measured with a lensmeter, focimeter, or vertometer in accordance with the instructions at the end of this chart.</td>
<td>±0.09 D. The curves of the reading and distance portions of a one-piece bifocal must meet sharply and be free of surface irregularities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cylinder Axis</td>
<td>Untreated Glass Lenses</td>
<td>The axis is determined in relation to the cutting or mounting line and is measured with a lensmeter, focimeter, or vertometer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Treated Glass Impact Resistant and Plastic Lenses</td>
<td>(see above)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.12 to 0.37 D: ±3°. 0.50 to 1.00 D: ±2°. above 1.12 D: ±1°.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.12 to 0.37 D: ±5°. 0.50 to 1.00 D: ±3°. above 1.12 D: ±2°.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prism Power and Location of Specified MRP</td>
<td>Measured with a lensmeter, focimeter, or vertometer at the MRP. A lens specified without prism will be considered a 0∆ lens.</td>
<td>Vertical: ±0.25∆ per lens or a 0.25∆ imbalance. Horizontal: ±0.25∆ per lens or a 0.50∆ imbalance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Segment Size</td>
<td>Measured with a ruler, at the widest part of the segment, on the segment side of the lens.</td>
<td>±0.5 mm. The segments must be symmetrical. Trifocal intermediate vertical dimension: ±0.25 mm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Segment Location</td>
<td>Measured with a ruler, from the apex of the bevel to the highest portion of the segment, on the concave side of the lens.</td>
<td>±0.5 mm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Front Base Curves</td>
<td>Measured with a lens</td>
<td>±0.75 D.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### INSPECTION ROUTINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>TOLERANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>clock, in the principle meridians, at the center of the lens.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Warpage (see Front Base Curves)                                                                  | ±1.00 D.  |
| Lens Size (see above).                                                                          | ±0.5 mm.  |
| Plastic Frames (see above).                                                                      | ±0.5 mm.  |
| Metal Frames (see above)                                                                        | Must fit into specified frame. |
| Rimless Mount Measured with a ruler in accordance with the boxing system.                      | Lens shapes must match. Edges must be straight and smooth with all sharp edges removed. |

| Thickness Specified Measured with a caliper at the thinnest part of the lens.                   | ±0.2 mm |
| Thickness Industrial Measured with a caliper at the thinnest part of the lens.                  | 3.0 mm  |
| Thickness Dress Measured with a caliper.                                                       | Not less than 2.0 mm at the optical center (OC). Average thickness between the OC and the thinnest edge not less than 1.7 mm. Edge thickness of not less than 1.0 mm at the thinnest part of the edged lens. |

All treated glass/impact resistant and plastic occupational protective lenses must meet the requirements for power, size, etc. as specified in this chart and those of ANSI Z87.1-1968.

Before they are mounted into frames, all treated glass/impact resistant and plastic lenses must be capable of withstanding the impact of a 5/8 inch steel ball dropped from 50 inches. This test is to be conducted at room temperature, with the lens supported by a plastic tube (1 inch inside diameter, 1-1/4 inch outside diameter) with a 1/8 inch neoprene gasket on the top edge.
A generalized set of instructions for measuring the power of the addition follow:

a) neutralize the distance portion of the lens with the temples pointing away from you (reading A)
b) turn the eyeglasses over so that the temples are pointing towards you. Neutralize the distance portion again (reading B).
   If the lens is a spherocylinder lens, you must adjust the cylinder wheel.
   For example: The distance prescription is +4.00 +1.00 X 075. The axis is 15° from the vertical.
   When the eyeglasses are turned over the axis will still be 15° from the vertical but in the opposite direction. The cylinder wheel will read 105°
c) neutralize the near portion of the lens with the temples pointing towards you (reading C)
d) the algebraic difference between readings C and B (C - B) equals the power of the addition

e) because of the prismatic effect that occurs when neutralizing the near portion, the target may be blurred. Use the auxiliary prisms to shift the target to the center of the reticle.
OPTICAL SCIENCES 2
ADVANCED PRACTICE
CONTACT LENS EXAMINATION
NACOR Optical Sciences 2 – Advanced Practice Contact Lens Examination

The NACOR optical sciences 2 – advanced practice contact lens examination measures 30 areas of competence broken down into 5 sections with 125 enabling objectives. One of the sections is knowledge-based and four of the sections are skills-based with clinical judgment-based sub-sets.

Section 1 – Keratometry & Rx Interpretation - 22% of exam
- 48 marks
- 50 minutes

Section 2 – Pathology & Contact Lenses - 15% of exam
- 32 marks
- 30 minutes

Section 3 – Verification and Lens Design - 20% of exam
- 44 marks
- 70 minutes

Section 4 – Insertion & Removal - 8% of exam
- 18 marks
- 15 minutes

Section 5 – Follow-up - 34% of exam
- 74 marks
- 55 minutes

Within the 5 sections there is a possibility of achieving 216 marks. The passing mark for the optical sciences 2 – advanced practice contact lens examination is 147 marks or 68%. If a candidate fails the examination they must repeat the entire examination.

Activities Performed in the Optical Sciences 2 – Advanced Practice Contact Lens Examination

Section 1 – Keratometry & Rx Interpretation
In Part A of this section the candidate will be expected to check the calibration of a keratometer and take the K-readings of a live model. The candidate will be given a maximum of 20 minutes to complete Part A.

In Part B of this section the candidate will be given two case scenarios and they will be required to develop a series of lens specifications based on the case scenarios. The candidate will be given a maximum of 30 minutes to complete Part B.

Equipment Supplied:
1 keratometer
labeled calibration spheres
alcohol wipes
1 conversion chart
Section 2 – Pathology & Contact Lenses
In Part A of this section the candidate will be asked to view a series of ten photos and identify various pathologies and/or contact lens anomalies.

In Part B of this section the candidate will be asked to view a different series of four photos and to answer multiple choice questions based upon the slides.

Equipment Supplied:
1 candidate handbook containing photos

Section 3 - Verification and Lens Design
In Part A of this section the candidate will be required to measure the back vertex power of a two soft contact lenses using a lensometer, The candidate will also be required to measure the back vertex power, base curve, and diameter of three gas permeable lenses, using a radiuscope, lensometer, and diameter gauge. The candidate will also be required to identify the lens design of the three gas permeable lenses.

In Part B of this section the candidate will be given a series of four lenses and will be required to analyze whether or not the lenses would be considered safe to dispense. For each lens the candidate will be required to answer a multiple-choice question to demonstrate their judgment as to how the lens could be modified to improve its viability.

Equipment Supplied:
1 radiuscope
1 lensometer
1 lens diameter gauge
1 magnifier loupe
soft and hard lens solution
Kleenex
series of test lenses

Section 4 – Insertion & Removal
In Part A of this section the candidate will be required to flip the model’s eyelid to reveal the palpebral conjunctiva. The candidate will be expected to demonstrate appropriate personal hygiene as well as appropriate disinfection protocols for equipment and lenses.

In Parts B & C of this section the candidate will be required to insert and remove a soft as well as a gas permeable contact lens using a live model.

Equipment Supplied:
gas permeable lenses
soft lenses
soft and hard lens solution
Q-tips
plunger
sink
soap
Section 5 – Follow-up
Part A of this section is theoretical. The candidate will be given six case scenarios of contact lens customers and they will be required to name the conditions or identify the cause of the customers’ problem. The candidate will be given a maximum of 20 minutes to complete Part A.

In Part B of this section the candidate will be given a case study and, using a live model, will be required to perform a routine six-month follow-up examination.

In Part C of this section the candidate will be required, using a live model, to demonstrate three randomly chosen forms of slit lamp biomicroscope illumination selected from the following; parallelpiped, specular reflection, direct and indirect retro-illumination, sclerotic scatter, and conical beam.

The candidate will be given a maximum of 35 minutes to complete Parts B & C.

Equipment Supplied:
1 slit lamp
1 keratometer
1 visual acuity chart
alcohol wipes
NACOR Administrative Policies for Examinations
Administrative Policies

1. A candidate must have graduated from an optical program accredited by NACOR, or undergone a prior learning assessment and recognition process administered within the framework agreed upon by NACOR and completed any bridging required by the provincial regulatory board. The candidate must also have completed any additional requirements of the provincial regulatory board.

2. A candidate’s eligibility to write the examination will be verified by NACOR for each and every sitting of the examination.

3. The examination fee for the NACOR optical sciences 1 - eyeglass examination is $725. The examination fee for the NACOR optical sciences 2 – advanced practice contact lens examination is $725. Taxes may be applicable in some provinces. All cheques must be made payable to NACOR.

4. Candidates will be notified in writing of the location, date and time of the examination by the host province.

5. Refunds will be issued by NACOR up until 14 days prior to the scheduled examination date. A candidate must receive prior approval by the host province to withdraw from the examination. A written explanation of the candidate’s reasons for not attending the examination must accompany the request for a refund.

6. Should a candidate be unable to attend the scheduled examination for a valid reason such as illness, immediately prior to, or on the same day as the examination, notification must be given immediately to the NACOR office. A message must be left at the NACOR office at 1-866-949-1950. Supporting documentation for missing the examination must be supplied.

7. A candidate who does not attend the scheduled examination and who has failed to make the proper notification or who has made proper notification but is subsequently unable to supply supporting documentation, will forfeit all examination fees.

8. A candidate is entitled to challenge a NACOR examination a maximum of three times. After the third and each ensuing unsuccessful attempt, the candidate must comply with an approved upgrade plan as specified by the provincial regulatory agency before any further challenge of the examination will be permitted.
Examination Eligibility

To be eligible to take the Optical Sciences 1 – Eyeglasses examination or the Optical Sciences 2 – Advanced Practice Contact Lens examination an applicant must demonstrate that he or she has:

1) Graduated from an optical program accredited by NACOR
   
   or

2) If the applicant has not graduated from an optical program accredited by NACOR
   
   a) Applied to an optician regulator in any Canadian jurisdiction,

   b) Undergone a prior learning assessment and recognition process administered within the framework agreed upon by NACOR

   and

   c) Completed any bridging required by that regulator, with the exception of the examination or examinations for which the applicant is applying.

At the Examination

1. Candidates must bring one piece of government issued photo identification to the examination. Candidates who do not have government issued photo identification will not be allowed to sit the examination and will forfeit all examination fees.

2. Candidates will not be allowed to enter the examination room or to sit the examination after the Moderator has started the session. A candidate who is late to the examination will forfeit all examination fees.

3. Candidates are responsible for supplying their own pens, pencils, and erasers.

4. All books, papers, memoranda, audiovisual aids, cassette players, computers, electronic translators or other memory aids or devices are not permitted in the examination environment. The examination Moderator must authorize scientific calculators and optical equipment brought to the examination by the candidate.

5. Cell phones are not permitted in the examination environment.

6. Candidates are responsible for maintaining their own mental and physical health throughout the examination.
7. The NACOR examination is a professional examination and candidates must dress appropriately.

8. The examination is a scent free environment candidates are to refrain from wearing perfume and cologne to the examination.

9. The Moderator has complete discretion over maintaining the stability of the examination environment. The Moderator, upon ascertaining that the presence of a candidate represents a disruption to the other candidates, has the authority to require that candidate leave the environment.

**Threats from Candidates**

1. NACOR has a zero tolerance for threats of physical harm or violence to self or others, made by candidates prior to, during, or after an examination.

2. Upon making a threat a candidate will be immediately disqualified from sitting the examination. If the candidate has already begun the examination the moderator will immediately expel the candidate from the examination environment.

3. NACOR will immediately inform the relevant police detachment of any threat of physical harm or violence.

4. Candidates threatening physical harm or violence will be prevented from further examination until a mental health assessment satisfactory to NACOR is provided independent of any police Mental Health Assessment. Such assessment to be at the expense of the candidate. The assessment must be done by a qualified medical practitioner and be in writing.

5. Threats of a non violent nature will be assessed by the National Examination Committee, such threats may result in the imposition of conditions or permanent disqualification from examination.

**Examination Protocol**

1. Once inside the examination environment candidates must refrain from speaking to or communication with other examination candidates.

2. Candidates are to refrain from discussing with other candidates both during and after the examination any of the specific questions from their examination, or any of the practical procedures they performed during the examination.

3. Candidates who, disagree with the judgment of the Moderator, display unsafe and/or inappropriate behavior or who the Moderator suspects are guilty of
examination dishonesty will be asked to leave the examination site and will forfeit their examination.
   a. Plagiarism in the examination is the deliberate formal presentation or submission of the product or illustrations of another as one’s own.
   b. Cheating is the use of unauthorized aids, assistance or materials in the demonstration of evidence of practical skill as required in the examination.

4. Decisions regarding breaches of appropriate candidate conduct in the examination environment are at the complete discretion of the Moderator.

Penalties for Breeching Examination Protocol

At the discretion of the Moderator the following penalties may be assessed for breaches of examination protocol.
   a. A zero percent grades will be assigned on the examination section in which the offense occurred.
   b. Zero percent grades will be assigned on the examination as a whole.
   c. Suspension from the examination section.
   d. Expulsion from the examination as a whole.

Candidate Appeals of Decisions of the Examination Moderator

1. An appeal is appropriate when a candidate believes that a decision of the Moderator has been made without justification.

2. All candidate appeals must be made in writing to the NACOR office. The candidate must decide on the central issue(s) contained in the appeal and submit rational written evidence related to each issue.

3. Candidates must present a written appeal 90 calendar days following receipt of the examination results. Candidates may submit a written request for an extension of this deadline in extraordinary circumstances. Should the candidate submit an appeal after the 90-day deadline and not attach a summary of reasons for requesting an extension to the deadline, a formal appeal will be denied.

4. The first level of appeal is an informal review by the Chair of the National Examination Committee and the Examination Moderator. An appeal that is considered to have merit will be forwarded to the formal appeal stage.

5. Formal appeals may or may not require the physical appearance of the candidate.
6. The appeal documentation is expected to include:
   a. The nature of the appeal
   b. The appropriate rationale for the appeal
   c. A summary of events that resulted in the submission of the appeal
   d. The reasons why a judgment should be resolved.
   e. The action the candidate believes should be taken to resolve the appeal

7. The formal appeal will be heard within 60 days of receipt from the Examination Moderator and the Chair of the Examination Committee.

8. All parties to the appeal will be encouraged to submit written documentation supporting their positions.

9. A panel will review all documentation and at the candidate’s request, allow the candidate to make an oral presentation. Travel expenses for the candidate to attend the review will be borne by the candidate.

10. The fee for a formal appeal is $150 with all cheques made payable to NACOR. Payment is due upon the candidate receiving notifications of the scheduled date of formal appeal.

11. Determinations made on a formal appeal are final and will be conveyed in writing to the candidate.

12. Should a candidate choose to proceed with legal action and the resulting determination of such actions is a ruling in favour of NACOR, the candidate will be responsible for any costs incurred by NACOR to defend its decision.

Purpose of the NACOR Optical Sciences 1 - Eyeglass and the Optical Sciences 2 – Advanced Practice Contact Lens Examinations

The National Association of Canadian Optician Regulators (NACOR), a consortium of Canadian regulatory bodies, developed the NACOR optical sciences 1 - eyeglass and optical sciences 2 – advanced practice contact lens examinations as a vehicle to measure competencies of those individuals seeking entry to practice as an optician.

Outline of the Examination Assessment Process & Content

NACOR offers two examinations. The NACOR optical sciences 1 - eyeglasses and the NACOR optical sciences 2 – advanced practice contact lens examinations. Both examinations measure competencies through knowledge-based, skills-based, and clinical judgment-based modules. In both examinations the skills-based modules make use of live models and test case scenarios that require the candidate to demonstrate techniques in equipment usage, ability to develop required data and to base a clinical judgment on the data collected.
Quality Control of Examination Questions

NACOR maintains a consistent standard of examination in several ways:

1. The NACOR Item Writing Committee meets regularly to develop new questions for the examination bank.

2. The NACOR Item Reading Committee reviews all questions in the examination bank to achieve clarity of composition, accuracy of marking keys, and relevance to the NACO Competency Matrix.

3. The NACOR Examination Committee reviews scoring on each question over a series of several examination sittings as a trigger to review the question form, content or the marking key.

4. NACOR supplies examination kits that contain test lenses, eyeglass frames, bench tools and other pieces of dispensary equipment. The kits are groomed and up-dated after every sitting of the examination.

The NACOR Competency Matrix

The NACOR Competency Matrix is based on the results of a national project of the 10 provincial regulatory bodies and associations, in which a list of tasks, skills and competencies was developed, validated in the field, and adopted as currently reflecting the level of knowledge required to perform as an optician in Canada. The NACOR examinations represent an opportunity for the candidate to demonstrate the knowledge.
Contact Information for Examinations
Provincial Regulatory Bodies

British Columbia
College of Opticians of British Columbia
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1-604-278-7510 – ph
1-604-278-7594 - fax

Alberta
College of Opticians of Alberta
Suite 201 – 2528 Ellwood Drive
Edmonton, Alberta
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1-780-429-2694 - ph
1-780-426-5576 – fax

Saskatchewan
Saskatchewan College of Opticians
1603 Fleet Street
Regina, Saskatchewan
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1-306-652-0769 – ph
1-306-652-0784 – fax

Manitoba
The Opticians of Manitoba
2706-83 Garry St.
Winnipeg, Manitoba
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1-204-982-6060 – ph
1-204-947-2519 – fax

Ontario
The College of Opticians of Ontario
85 Richmond Street West, Suite 902
Toronto, Ontario
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1-416-368-2713 – fax
**Newfoundland**
Dispensing Opticians Board of Newfoundland and Labrador  
P.O. Box 2552  
St. John’s, Newfoundland  
A1C 6K1

**New Brunswick**
Opticians Association of New Brunswick  
P.O. Box 6743, Station A  
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1-506-642-2878 – fax

**P.E.I.**
P.E.I. Board of Dispensing Opticians  
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Charlottetown, P.E.I.  
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1-902-425-7928 – ph  
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**Examination Schedule and Application Forms**

Check the NACOR website at [www.NACOR.ca](http://www.NACOR.ca)