

AGENCY PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Administration: Administration

Subprogram History

The Board of Optometry was created in 1909. Three members constituted the Board. In 1909, approximately 70 licenses were held. The Board now has 5 Board members, 4 of which are licensed optometrists and one public member. 1977, qualified optometrists were allowed to utilize pharmaceutical agents for diagnosis. In 1987, qualified optometrists were permitted to treat certain eye diseases with topical (i.e., drops or ointments) pharmaceutical agents and remove embedded foreign bodies that do not penetrate into the eyeball. In 1996, qualified optometrists were permitted to treat Adult Open Angle Glaucoma. Other changes which this law effected include a requirement for minimum of \$1,000,000 in professional liability insurance coverage. In 1999, therapeutic licensees were allowed to prescribe oral drugs for ocular conditions, some in consultation with an ophthalmologist. In 2005, licensees were required to obtain a therapeutic license by 2008 and a glaucoma license by 2010. In 2012, one level of licensure, require FBI background checks, require new graduates of optometry to have 24 hours of CE their first year, and established a litigation fund.

Consequences of Not Funding This Subprogram

Optometrists are the primary eye care providers for the citizens of Kansas. In addition to providing for the eye health of Kansans, optometric examinations detect underlying health conditions that may not be previously diagnosed, particularly heart disease, hypertension, and diabetes. Especially in more rural settings, optometrists are commonly the only option for eye care. Without licensing and enforcement of the statutes, rules and regulations of the Kansas Optometry Act, the citizens of Kansas would suffer from a lack of quality care necessary to protect both vision and systemic health.

Statutory Basis

KSA 65-1501-65-1526.

Mandatory/Discretionary	MOE/Match Requirement	Program Priority	Subprogram Priority
Discretionary	No	1	1

Subprograms Without Narrative Data

AGENCY PERFORMANCE MEASURES

			2022 Actuals	2023 Actuals	2024 Actuals	2025 Actuals	2026 Estimate	2027 Estimate
Administration: Administration								
Goal	Type	Measure						
		Percentage of reciprocities licensed	67.00%	100.00%	82.00%	100.00%	90.00%	90.00%
		Cost of OE Tracker Subscription	\$10,965.00	\$10,920.00	\$10,905.00	\$11,130.00	\$11,250.00	\$11,700.00
		Cost of PSA: Cosmetic contact lens	\$4,167.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,583.00	\$5,244.41	\$5,500.00	\$5,800.00
		Percent CE audited	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
		Percentage of CE in the OE Tracker	92.00%	93.00%	91.00%	90.00%	90.00%	90.00%
		Total savings for optometrists	7,310	7,280	7,270	7,420	7,500	7,800
	Outcome	Total license fees received	148,950	212,300	197,020	207,900	213,850	227,600
To investigate reports of infractions of the law and administer appropriate resolutions.	Outcome	Average time to complaint closure (days)	37	48	72	48	50	50
To license qualified optometrists.	Outcome	License renewals	331	386	340	377	369	400
		Percent passing exam	94.00%	88.00%	100.00%	91.00%	90.00%	90.00%
	Output	Cost of biennial license	\$450.00	\$550.00	\$550.00	\$550.00	\$550.00	\$550.00

Footnotes