

THE GREENSHEET

August

2026

Things Heated Up in Phoenix at ARBO's Annual Meeting!

ARBO 2026's annual meeting took place at the Renaissance Hotel in Phoenix, Arizona, June 13-14, 2026. The meeting was attended by 91 individuals, which included 55 delegates from 30 member boards. There were 36 other attendees, comprising guests, speakers, and Board members.

Dr. Terri Haley, ARBO President, called the meeting to order on Saturday, June 13, 2026. She introduced Dr. Kelly Moffat, Chair of the Arizona State Board of Optometry, who welcomed the delegates to Arizona. Dr. Haley thanked the delegates for attending the meeting. She then recognized the ARBO Board of Directors and thanked them for their hard work and dedication. Dr. Haley also noted some of the accomplishments of the Board of Directors over the past year.

Dr. Haley introduced ARBO's Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Lisa Fennell. Ms. Fennell introduced the ARBO staff and reported some of their accomplishments over the past year. Next, Dr. Glenn Kawaguchi, Secretary-Treasurer, presented the Financial Report, summarizing the findings of ARBO's financial audit.

The minutes from the 2025 annual meeting were approved and then Ms. Margaret Whelan, Vice President and Chair of the Finance Committee, presented the proposed 2027 budget. This was followed by Mr. Gregory Pruden, Chair of the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee, who presented the two resolutions submitted for the delegates' approval this year.

Next, Dr. Robert Easton, Jr., Chair of the Nominating



Dr. Terri Haley presides during the ARBO 2026 Annual Meeting.

Committee, announced that two four-year terms on the ARBO Board of Directors were open this year, and two current Board members are eligible for re-election. Dr. Easton presented the committee's slate of nominees for each position:

- For Position 1: Dr. Terri Haley
- For Position 2: Dr. Glenn Kawaguchi

Later in the morning, Ms. Catherine Lee, Esq. and Mr. Grant Simpkins, Esq., ARBO's legal counsel, gave a presentation on best practices for regulatory boards. This was followed by Dr. Haley leading an interactive discussion of disciplinary cases that had been submitted by member boards.

Next, Dr. Eric Bailey, Dr. Lillian Wang, Co-Chairs, gave the attendees a report on the activities of the *OE TRACKER* Committee. The morning concluded with Dr. Carey Patrick, Chair of the National Board Exam Review Committee, who presented the committee's annual report and recommendations regarding the NBEO exams.

After lunch, Ms. Susan Leahy gave a presentation on running effective Board meetings and how to easily follow Robert's Rules of Order. Next, ARBO Board members Dr. Eric Bailey, Dr. Luanne Chubb, and Dr. Lillian Wang did an interactive session on recognizing and preventing self-interest as regulatory board members.

After a short break, Dr. Terri Haley moderated a session where the delegates reported on the activities in their jurisdiction, new legislation, and other issues. In

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*Ms. Margaret Whelan is
the President of ARBO*

Letter from ARBO's President

Dear Colleagues and Fellow Member Jurisdictions,

As I take on the honor of serving as your ARBO President for the coming year, I want to begin with a sincere thank you. Stepping into this role is both humbling and deeply inspiring. Every day, our member regulatory jurisdictions work diligently behind the scenes to protect the public and uphold the highest standards of optometric care.

What makes ARBO special is not just our collective mission, but the dedication of our membership. Whether you are a long-serving jurisdiction member, a newly appointed regulatory official, or administrative staff keeping jurisdiction operations running smoothly, your commitment ensures that public safety and professional excellence remain the standard.

Looking Ahead: Strategic Priorities for the Coming Year

The landscape of optometric regulation is changing rapidly. As scope of practice expands, technology evolves, and practitioner mobility becomes essential, our role as a unifying supportive body is more important than ever. Over the next 12 months, our immediate focus is:

1. Enhancing Regulatory Tools (COPE & OE TRACKER)

We are continuously upgrading our flagship programs. From modernizing COPE to adapt to new learning formats and expanded scopes of practice, to refining OE TRACKER to ease CE audit burdens for member jurisdictions, we are investing in tools that make public protection support and compliance effortless.

2. Adapting to Emerging Technologies & Scope Evolution

From AI-driven diagnostics to advanced surgical procedures and expanded therapeutics, optometry is progressing fast. ARBO is dedicated to equipping member jurisdictions with model guidelines (Model Practice Act) and shared regulatory insights to navigate these changes confidently.

3. Advancing License Mobility & CELMO Support

Practitioners face growing cross-jurisdictional demands, accelerated by the growth of telemedicine and multi-state practices. We are strengthening the Council on Endorsed Licensure Mobility for Optometry

(CELMO) as a streamlined repository for credentials, minimizing administrative friction for optometrists while giving member jurisdictions the verified data they need, including proof of passing the NBEO Exams for Endorsement applicants.

Regulatory Trends We Are Watching

Beyond our internal operations, several regulatory shifts require our proactive attention:

- **Scope Modernization & Education Integration:** As more jurisdictions update practice acts to include laser and surgical procedures, regulatory jurisdictions need adaptable standards to certify and monitor ongoing competency.
- **Artificial Intelligence, Telehealth and Emerging Technology:** The integration of AI screening tools into clinical workflows presents fresh questions regarding accountability, standards of care, data and patient privacy, clinical oversight, informed consent, and the appropriate role of technology in diagnosis and treatment; topics we will continue exploring together.
- **Streamlining Jurisdiction Administrative Burden:** Member jurisdictions are tasked with doing more with fewer administrative resources. ARBO is expanding its programs to lighten the operational load and assist its member jurisdictions.

Our Strongest Asset Is You

An organization is only as strong as the voices involved. As we launch into this new term, I encourage you to stay actively engaged. Share your jurisdiction's challenges, send us feedback on how we can better support your jurisdiction, and join us in our upcoming committee sessions and meetings.

Thank you again for your trust, your leadership, and your passion for public protection. I look forward to working alongside each of you to accomplish great things in the year ahead!

Margaret Whelan, MPA
ARBO President



New ARBO Officers Elected

At ARBO's 2026 annual meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, Dr. Terri Haley and Dr. Glenn Kawaguchi were re-elected to serve a second term on the Board of Directors. Dr. Haley served as ARBO's President from June 2025-2026 and Dr. Kawaguchi served as ARBO's Secretary-Treasurer from June 2025-2026. Congratulations to both of them!

The Board of Directors also elected officers for the 2026-2027 term. The new officers are:

- **President**—Margaret Whelan, MPA
- **Vice President**—Glenn Kawaguchi, OD
- **Secretary-Treasurer**—Linda Tharp, OD
- **Immediate Past President**—Terri Haley, OD

Other members of the Board of Directors include: Eric Bailey, OD; James Campbell, OD; Luanne Chubb, OD; Gerard Lozada, OD; Patrick O'Neill, OD; Lillian Wang, OD; and Donovan Crouch, OD (consultant to the Board).

**Want more regulatory information?
Check out our blog at
blog.arbo.org**



A Note from the Chief Executive Officer

It was wonderful to see everyone in Phoenix for our 2026 Annual Meeting in June. Approximately 30% of the attendees who joined us there were at our meeting for the first time, and it was great to welcome and connect with them. I hope you enjoyed the meeting and found it valuable.

Over the past few years, we've made thoughtful changes to the meeting format, and we appreciate the positive feedback we have received. ARBO's Annual Meeting is a unique opportunity to engage with regulatory colleagues, discuss current topics, and address shared concerns. Our goal is to help you stay informed about regulatory issues and best practices in regulation. There truly is no other meeting like it for Optometry Board members and staff.

We enjoyed our time together in Phoenix and we're looking forward to going to Boston for next year's meeting. ARBO continues to offer travel stipends and scholarships to help address budget challenges, and we plan to make these opportunities available again next year. Please do not let funding concerns prevent you from attending. Additional information about travel assistance for the 2027 meeting will be shared early next year.

ARBO is your association, and our purpose is to provide programs and services that help our members increase efficiency and accomplish more with limited resources. Please consider us an extension of your Board staff. Our dedicated team is available to assist you with whatever you may need.

We also continue to add resources to the Member Dashboard, including our Model Practice Act for Optometry, which is available as a resource when updates to statutes are needed.

Hopefully, everyone is using the dashboard. If you haven't done so yet, simply log in to your member account on our website. There, you will find detailed information about your licensees' CE attendance, model documents, webinar recordings, and many other resources to support your regulatory work. I would be happy to attend one of your board meetings to discuss ARBO's programs or provide a demonstration. Please let me know if you are interested.

The ARBO Board of Directors is finalizing the new committees, and our staff is looking forward to working with them. We will continue our communication efforts to help keep you informed about important regulatory issues. We've scheduled more of our "ARBO Happy Hour" regulatory webinars, with dates and topics available on our website. You can also visit our blog at blog.arbo.org for additional regulatory information.

I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer. I am looking forward to cooler fall weather and the holiday season ahead. ARBO is here to support you. Please reach out and let us know how we can help. Feel free to contact me at LFennell@arbo.org with any questions or suggestions.

Lisa Fennell
Chief Executive Officer

ARBO Annual Meeting Recap (continued)

the next session, NBEO Directors, Dr. Jim Campbell, Dr. Pat O'Neill, and Dr. Daniel Taylor, joined Dr. Jill Bryant, NBEO Executive Director, in a presentation about the NBEO's activities. The day concluded with the nominees for the Board of Directors addressing the delegates. Dr. Haley then recessed the meeting until the next morning.

On Sunday, June 14th, Dr. Haley welcomed the delegates back to the meeting. The delegates voted to approve both resolutions that were presented.

- **Resolution #1:** Congratulating the National Board of Examiners in Optometry on their 75th Anniversary can be found on page 6.
- **Resolution #2:** Honoring Dr. Terri Haley can be found on page 7.

Next, the 2027 budget was approved by the delegates followed by the election for the Board of Directors. Dr. Haley and Dr. Kawaguchi were both re-elected to a second term on the Board of Directors.

Three Optometry Board Attorneys: Ronald Almiron, Assistant General Counsel, Illinois; Rhonda Edwards, Esq., Assistant Attorney General, Maryland; and Adam Scheider, Esq., Executive Director, Nevada Board of Optometry, participated on a panel, moderated by Grant Simpkins, Esq., where they discussed legal issues in their states. Next, Don Isaacson, Esq. gave a presentation on the role of Optometry Boards in communicating and lobbying with legislators.

After a short break, Dr. Haley reported that the Board of Directors elected the following officers for the 2026-2027 administrative year:

- President: Ms. Margaret Whelan
- Vice President: Dr. Glenn Kawaguchi
- Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Linda Tharp

Dr. Haley noted that she will serve as Immediate Past President.

Next, Dr. Julie Tyler, COPE Governing Council Chair, and Ms. Sierra Powell, ARBO's Manager of Accreditation Services, gave a report on the activities of the COPE Governing Council. The morning concluded with a presentation by Catherine Lee, Esq., on legal issues affecting licensing boards.

After lunch, ARBO Board members Ms. Margaret Whelan, Dr. Glenn Kawaguchi, and Dr. Gerard Lozada gave an interactive presentation on Due Process: The Backbone of Legitimate Regulation. Dr. Richard Castillo, Founding Dean of the University of North Carolina

College of Optometric Medicine, then gave the delegates an update from his presentation in 2025 on predictors of optometry Board Exam performance and suggestions on improving student outcomes.

Next, Dr. Julie DeKinder, ACOE Chair, presented a report to the delegates on the activities of the ACOE, followed by a report by Dr. Alicia Feis, ASCO President, on the activities of ASCO. The afternoon concluded with NBEO staff answering questions that had been submitted by ARBO's members.

Dr. Terri Haley then asked all ARBO past Presidents in attendance to come up to pass the gavel:

- Dr. Donovan Crouch (2001-2002)
- Dr. Robert Easton, Jr. (2006-2007)
- Dr. Susy Yu (2015-2016)
- Dr. James Campbell (2019-2020)
- Dr. Patrick O'Neill (2020-2021)
- Dr. Terri Haley (2025-2026)

After receiving the gavel, newly elected President Ms. Margaret Whelan then gave some remarks to the delegates about her plans for the next year. Dr. Terri Haley then thanked the delegates for attending and the meeting was adjourned.



2026 ARBO Annual Meeting Pictures



Annual Meeting Approved Resolutions

2026 Approved Resolution #1 Congratulating the NBEO on it's 75th Anniversary

WHEREAS, the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO), was established in 1951 by the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) with the participation of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO) with the foundational mandate to develop, administer, maintain, and report results of psychometrically valid examinations that assess the entry-level competence of optometric practitioners to practice optometry for governmental licensing authorities, including the ARBO Member Boards; and

WHEREAS, for three-quarters of a century, the NBEO Examinations have served as the gold standard for governmental licensing authorities and ARBO Member Boards in ensuring that only qualified individuals are granted a license to practice optometry; and

WHEREAS, the NBEO has proactively evolved alongside the optometric profession, developing sophisticated examinations to measure both advanced competence and continuing clinical proficiency, providing ARBO's Member Boards with the tools necessary for lifelong professional oversight; and

WHEREAS, the NBEO has consistently pursued a mission centered on the protection of the public through rigorous, evidence-based competency evaluation; and

WHEREAS, the NBEO has maintained an unwavering commitment to excellence in testing, ensuring the integrity, reliability, and validity of the licensure process for the optometric community; and

WHEREAS, the year 2026 marks the 75th Anniversary of the NBEO's dedicated service and steadfast partnership with ARBO and its Member Boards; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that ARBO formally extends its highest commendations and heartfelt congratulations to the NBEO on the occasion of its 75th Anniversary; and be it

RESOLVED, that ARBO expresses its profound gratitude for the NBEO's sustained commitment to the safety and welfare of the public and its invaluable service to ARBO and its Member Boards; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry offers its best wishes for the NBEO's continued success, innovation, and leadership in the field of professional competence assessment for many decades to come.

Approved by the ARBO House of Delegates June 14, 2026.

Annual Meeting Approved Resolutions

2026 Resolution #2 Honoring Dr. Terri Haley

WHEREAS, Dr. Terri Haley has performed outstanding service for the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) during her service on the Board of Directors of ARBO since being elected in 2022. Dr. Haley has served one term as Secretary-Treasurer 2023-2024, one as Vice President 2024-2025, and one as President 2025-2026; and

WHEREAS, her service has been exemplified by sterling qualities of leadership which underlie her personal successes and those of ARBO; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Terri Haley has given outstanding service through her volunteer leadership roles on the Idaho Board of Optometry, and in various other capacities; and

WHEREAS, the member boards of ARBO wish formally to acknowledge Dr. Terri Haley's distinguished contributions to ARBO; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that ARBO, at this 107th Annual Meeting, express its sincere appreciation to Dr. Terri Haley for her many years of distinguished service and outstanding contributions; and be it further

RESOLVED, that ARBO bestows upon Dr. Terri Haley the status of **Life Member**.

Approved by the ARBO House of Delegates June 14, 2026.

Start Making Plans for ARBO's 2027 Annual Meeting in Boston

Mark Your Calendars for June 13-14, 2027 to attend the ARBO Annual Meeting in Boston!

The 2027 ARBO Annual Meeting is taking place in Boston, Massachusetts. ARBO's 107th Annual Meeting will be held at the Hilton Boston Park Plaza Hotel, one of Boston's most historic hotels, located in Back Bay surrounded by shopping, dining, and entertainment.

Boston is a city of culture, history, cuisine, sports, outdoor beauty and more! It is a destination where the richness of American history is complimented by the vibrancy of a modern, innovative city. From world-class museums and renowned universities to iconic landmarks, gourmet restaurants, and diverse neighborhoods, Boston has a lot to offer.



We look forward to seeing you in Boston! Go to www.arbo.org for more information. Online registration will be available in early 2027.

COPE Presents Research at CME Accreditor Meeting

The Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE) Governing Council presented research related to Continuing education (CE) at the 2026 Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) Learn to Thrive meeting held in Chicago earlier this year. This annual meeting brings together healthcare CE professionals from different backgrounds and training, to learn from, with, and about each other with the overarching goal to deliver high-quality patient care.

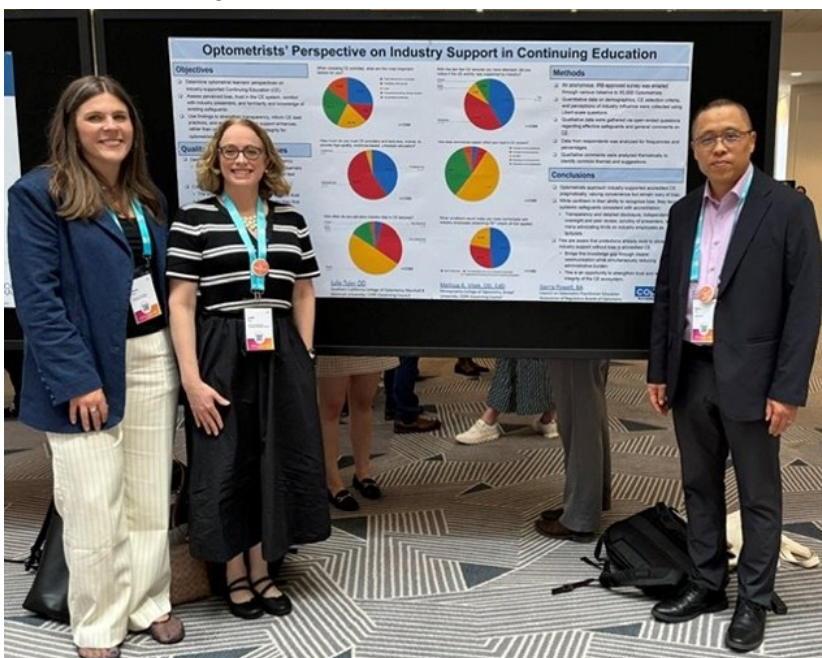
COPE aims to ensure the integrity and independence of all accredited continuing optometric education. This objective led the COPE Governing Council to develop and distribute a survey to 55,000 optometrists to assess their perceived bias, trust in the CE system, comfort with industry speakers, and familiarity and knowledge of existing CE safeguards.

Both qualitative and quantitative data were collected on learner demographics, criteria for CE selection, perceptions of industry influence, qualities of effective safeguards against bias, and general comments on optometric CE.

The survey data results from 2,366 respondents indicate:

- Optometrist learners approach CE with confidence in their personal ability to recognize any bias (or potential for bias.)
- Optometrist learners generally trust CE Providers, but at the same time remain cautious of industry support of CE and the transparency of that support to learners.
- Optometrist learners expect strict requirements of industry speakers that are providing CE including:
 - Clear speaker disclosure of relevant financial relationships,
 - Inclusion of co-speakers who are not employed by industry,
 - Independent review (by peers or planners with no relevant relationships) of CE content given by industry speakers.

The survey data was compiled to create a CE research poster titled **Optometrists' Perspective on Industry Support in Continuing Education**, which was displayed prominently for attendees to view during the meeting. The CE research poster authors also participated in a Research & Scholarship Exchange where they presented a brief oral presentation to meeting attendees and answered attendee questions during a poster session that followed.



The COPE Governing Council plans to utilize the survey findings to increase education about COPE's Accreditation Criteria and Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited CE, therein strengthening learner trust and reinforcing the integrity of the COPE Accreditation program.



Dr. Julie Tyler, COPE Governing Council Chair; Dr. Gary Chu, Past COPE Governing Council Chair; and Ms. Sierra Powell, ARBO's Manager of Accreditation Services, presenting a poster at the 2026 ACCME meeting.

Join Us for Our Upcoming Regulatory Webinars

Following the Rules: Protecting Boards, Practitioners, and the Public

September 29, 2026 at 8:00 pm ET / 7:00 pm CT / 6:00 pm MT / 5:00 pm PT

Join ARBO's legal counsel and members of the Board of Directors for an engaging, practical discussion on why regulatory boards must consistently follow their rules and regulations. This webinar will highlight common challenges boards face, explain why staying within established authority matters, and offer guidance on what to do when the right course of action is unclear. Come ready to gain useful insights, ask questions, and leave better prepared to navigate complex situations with confidence.

Best Practices for Regulatory Boards

January 26, 2027 at 8:00 pm ET / 7:00 pm CT / 6:00 pm MT / 5:00 pm PT

Join ARBO's legal counsel and members of the Board of Directors, for a timely and practical discussion on best practices for regulatory boards. This webinar will explore key issues such as board conduct, conflicts of interest, hearings, and disciplinary matters, while offering real-world guidance to help boards navigate complex situations with confidence. Whether you are a new board member or a seasoned leader, you will leave with clearer insight into how to uphold your responsibilities, reduce risk, and support effective board governance.

You can register for the webinars on our website at <https://www.arbo.org/regulatory-webinars>. You'll be sent a zoom link to attend the webinar about a week in advance.

COPE to Update Attendance Records Policy



Effective January 1, 2027, COPE Administrators and Accredited Providers will be required to submit attendance records for all COPE Accredited CE within 30 days of an activity taking place. COPE (through ARBO's OE TRACKER system) will maintain the records on behalf of optometrist learners and ARBO's member licensing boards.

COPE Administrators/Provider will have two options for submitting COPE attendance records:

1. Download and complete pre-formatted Excel spreadsheets. These spreadsheets contain detailed instructions for use and will be emailed to COPE upon completion.
 - COPE Attendance Records are submitted using the [COPE Attendance Upload Form](#)
 - Many COPE Administrators/Providers also provide Non-COPE CE at COPE Accredited activities. Non-COPE Attendance Records are submitted using the [Non-COPE Attendance Upload Form](#)

COPE Administrators/Providers can also log into their administrator account to access these pre formatted Excel spreadsheets.

2. Utilize the OE TRACKER Mobile App. Course-specific QR codes for use at a COPE Accredited CE activity with the OE TRACKER mobile app can be generated in the Administrator/Provider account. Information about the mobile app including instructions for COPE Administrators/Providers and optometrist learners can be found here: [OE TRACKER Mobile App](#)

This attendance records policy update will ensure that optometrist learner attendance data is being maintained electronically within the OE TRACKER database and will provide ARBO's member licensing boards with complete, accurate reporting of CE attendance to assist with their CE auditing.

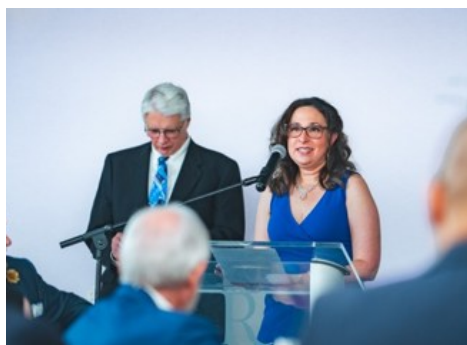
Please contact Sierra Powell, Manager of Accreditation Services, with any questions at spowell@arbo.org.



On August 7, 2026, The National Board of Examiners in Optometry® (NBEEO®) proudly celebrated its 75th anniversary in Charlotte, North Carolina, marking three-quarters of a century dedicated to optometric competence assessment and public protection.

Since 1951, when the International Board of Boards (now called ARBO), with involvement from the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO), founded NBEEO, the organization has continued to evolve alongside the profession of optometry. What began as an era of paper examinations, and scantron sheets has grown into a modern multifaceted examination series designed to reflect the knowledge, clinical judgement, and hands-on clinical skills needed of today's Doctors of Optometry.

Throughout that evolution though, NBEEO's central purpose has remained unchanged: protecting the public by ensuring those entering the profession of optometry are prepared to provide safe, competent, independent care.



"Patients remain at the center of everything we do," NBEEO Executive Director Jill Bryant, OD, MPH, FAAO, said during the celebration. "They are the one and only stakeholder group that we will never meet, never survey and yet must always prioritize above all others."

The anniversary event brought together NBEEO staff, board members, members from ARBO, members from ASCO, exam development volunteers, and other members of the optometric community.

The evening recognized the many people whose expertise, time and commitment make the credible, fair and defensible assessments that NBEEO administers possible.

"This 75-year journey has not happened on autopilot. It happens because of our incredible leadership," NBEEO Board President Jim Campbell, OD, said. "All the staff at NBEEO make this organization great. They are regularly navigating the complexities of modern examinations and ensuring that everything runs smoothly behind the scenes. To our leadership and staff: thank you for your tireless dedication. We couldn't do this without you."

The 75-year history of NBEEO reflects the broader progression of optometric education and practice. As the profession has expanded scope and clinical responsibility, NBEEO has adapted its examinations to help state board members evaluate the readiness of modern practice.



While the evening honored NBEEO's history, it also emphasized the organization's future. Advances in technology, changes in healthcare, and evolving expectations for patient care will continue to shape optometry, and NBEEO remains committed to responding with integrity, innovation, and purpose.

For 75 years, NBEEO has supported regulators, educators, and candidates through a shared commitment to competent practice and the protection of the public. As NBEEO looks ahead, that responsibility remains its enduring guide.



Recording CE Attendance is Easy with QR Codes



OE *TRACKER* just became even more useful for licensing boards, associations, and CE providers offering non-COPE continuing education. QR Codes have provided a convenient way to record attendance for COPE events through the OE *TRACKER* mobile app, but we are happy to share that COPE administrators can now create QR Codes for non-COPE courses too. This provides a simple way to record attendance for state-mandated and other non-COPE CE.

ARBO recently expanded this feature to give boards/colleges, associations, and other CE providers another option for collecting and reporting attendance. CE providers create a QR code, attendees simply scan the QR Code with the OE *TRACKER* mobile app, and their attendance is uploaded directly to their OE *TRACKER* account in real time. This can be especially helpful for organizations offering courses on topics such as ethics, jurisprudence, controlled substances, opioid education, or other state-specific requirements. OE *TRACKER*'s expanded functionality provides an opportunity to streamline attendance reporting without relying solely on paper certificates or manually submitted attendance lists.

The process is simple for both the provider and the optometrist. COPE administrators log into their account and select "Create a Non-COPE QR Code for use with the OE *TRACKER* mobile app" from the main menu and follow the prompted instructions. Optometrists attend the course, scan the QR Code, and the CE is recorded!

The OE *TRACKER* mobile app is free to download and also allows optometrists to view their CE history, monitor their progress towards meeting their CE requirements, and email, print, or save a copy of their CE history. ARBO is happy to work with boards, associations, and their administrative teams to help determine if OE *TRACKER* and non-COPE QR Codes could be useful for their CE reporting needs.

Create a QR Code for a Non-COPE Course on ARBO's Website

For more information on the **OE TRACKER** program, please scan the QR code



For more information on COPE Accreditation, please scan the QR code



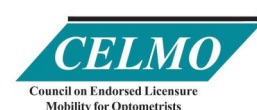
COMING SOON: New Licensing Requirements Lookup

ARBO is adding a new feature to our website, a way to look up the licensing requirements of all jurisdictions in one centralized place. The search will include the requirements for initial licensure (licensure by examination) and for an optometrists already licensed in another state/province (licensure by endorsement).

This feature will be useful for licensing boards, students and practicing optometrists. The new licensing requirements search will be going live by mid-September. Check it out on www.arbo.org and let us know what you think!

State/Provincial Initial Licensure	Optometrists Licensed in Another State/Province
State/Provincial Initial Licensure (or Licensure by Examination) Requirements Requirements for initial licensure in this State/Province.	
Below are the requirements for initial licensure in this State/Province.	
☒ Graduation from an accredited optometry school/college • Documentation of graduation from a university or college that teaches the profession of optometry and that is accredited by a nationally accepted accrediting body on optometric education. • Must provide documentation of satisfactory completion of an equivalent course of study that is approved by the board in didactic education, pharmacology and clinical training in the examination, diagnosis and treatment of conditions of the human eye and its adnexa and that either: 1. Meets the contemporary educational requirements at colleges of optometry in the United States OR 2. Totals at least one hundred twenty hours.	
☒ Background Check Must disclose any investigation conducted or pending by an optometric regulatory board in another jurisdiction in the United States.	
☒ Fingerprinting	
☒ State/Provincial Jurisprudence Exam You may take the jurisprudence exam online through NBEO at any time during the application process.	
Required Licensing Examinations ☒ NBEO Part I Applied Basic Sciences (ABS) Exam ☒ NBEO Part II Patient Assessment and Management (PAM) Exam ☒ NBEO Part III Patient Encounters and Performance Skills (PEPS) Exam ☒ NBEO Treatment and Management of Ocular Disease (TMOD) Exam	
Other Examination(s) Requires all examinations to be taken within 10 years before the application submission date.	Other Requirements None

Streamline Your Endorsement Process with CELMO



ARBO's CELMO (Council on Endorsed Licensure Mobility for Optometrists) program was designed specifically to support licensing boards. CELMO helps verify the qualifications of established optometrists seeking licensure in another state—reducing administrative burden, saving valuable time, and giving boards greater confidence in the applications they review. ARBO completes the credential verification process and issues a CELMO certificate, allowing applicants to present verified documentation as part of their licensure application.

Who Qualifies for CELMO?

CELMO is available to optometrists who meet established professional, educational, and practice standards. To qualify, an optometrist must:

- have a doctor of optometry (O.D.) degree from a school or college of optometry accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE).
- have been engaged in active practice for three of the last four years.
- have authority to prescribe medications (therapeutic pharmaceutical agents) where currently practicing.
- be in good standing in every state from which a license is currently held.
- report all disciplinary actions taken by any licensing board or other entity.
- have received passing scores on all three parts of the National Board Examination.
- complete CELMO's educational requirements.

CELMO Continuing Education Requirements

To maintain the high standards boards rely on, the CELMO certificate requires 50 hours of COPE-Accredited continuing education within a 2-year time frame.

These hours are structured to demonstrate current, relevant clinical knowledge in the following areas:

- 20 hours from COPE Category B (Ocular Disease Management)
- 20 hours COPE Category C (Related Systemic Disease)
- 10 hours COPE Category A (Clinical Optometry), B, or C

Ready to learn how CELMO can simplify and strengthen your endorsement process? Contact Lisa Fennell, Chief Executive Officer, at Lfennell@arbo.org for more information.



Become One of a Select Few!

As a regulatory board member and an optometrist, please consider becoming a reviewer of courses submitted for COPE accreditation. The time you spend contributing to the COPE review process will help ensure the quality and independence of continuing education. COPE accreditation benefits both practitioners in your jurisdiction as well as the public that we serve.

What do I need to do to become certified?

- You must complete and submit a course reviewer questionnaire.
- You must be endorsed by your optometry licensing Board; this endorsement will be secured by ARBO once you volunteer.
- You will be asked to complete COPE reviewer training.
- Once the training has been successfully completed, you will be able to start reviewing courses.

How much time will this take from my already busy schedule?

- COPE reviewers are not requested to review more than two courses at any given time.
- The review of a course typically takes about 30 minutes.

Please consider volunteering and contributing to the COPE review process!

For more information please visit our website at www.arbo.org and click on COPE, then click on "COPE Reviewers" and "Become a Reviewer" or send an email to arbo@arbo.org.

ARBO BOARD OF DIRECTORS— OFFICERS:

President—Margaret Whelan, MPA
 Vice President—Glenn Kawaguchi, OD
 Secretary-Treasurer—Linda Tharp, OD
 Immediate Past President—Terri Haley, OD

DIRECTORS:

Eric Bailey, OD
 Luanne Chubb, OD, FAAO
 James Campbell, OD
 Gerard Lozada, OD
 Patrick O'Neill, OD, FAAO
 Lillian Wang, OD
 Donovan Crouch, OD, Consultant

ARBO STAFF—

Lisa Fennell, Chief Executive Officer
 Lyndsey Burrell, Program Coordinator
 Hope Cole, Program Specialist
 Donna DeLay, Program Manager/COPE Administrator
 Brandon Hoffman, Finance and Admin Services Manager
 Brittany Howard, MBA, Senior Program Specialist
 Audrey Hurst, Senior Program Specialist
 Jessi McVean, Customer Service Manager
 Sierra Powell, Manager of Accreditation Services
 Janiece Wiley, Program Coordinator



Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry
 3440 Toringdon Way
 Suite 205, PMB 20533
 Charlotte, NC 28277
 Phone: 704-970-2710
 Fax: 888-703-4848
 Email: arbo@arbo.org
www.arbo.org