

# THE GREENSHEET

September

2025

## ARBO's 2025 Annual Meeting was Minnesota Nice!

The 2025 Annual Meeting was attended by 106 individuals, which included 66 delegates from 35 member boards. There were 40 other attendees, comprising guests, invited speakers and ARBO Board members.

Dr. Jeffery Yunker, President, called the meeting to order in the morning on Sunday, June 22, 2025. Dr. Eric Bailey, Chair of the Minnesota Board of Optometry, welcomed the delegates to Minnesota. Dr. Yunker then recognized the ARBO Board of Directors and noted some of their accomplishments over the past year. Dr. Yunker then introduced ARBO's Executive Director, Ms. Lisa Fennell, who introduced the staff and reported some of their accomplishments over the past year.

Ms. Margaret Whelan, Secretary-Treasurer, reported that ARBO had an audit of the 2024 financial statements and everything was found to be in order. The delegates then approved the minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting. Next, Dr. Mariah Smith, Chair, gave the Nominating Committee report. Dr. Smith announced that two four-year terms on the ARBO Board of Directors were open: one 4-year term for the position of Dr. Jeffery Yunker, who is not eligible for re-election, and one 4-year term for the position of Dr. Gerard Lozada, who has completed a partial term and is eligible for re-election. Dr. Smith presented the Nominating Committee's slate of nominees for each position: For Board of Director Position 1: Dr. Carey Patrick and Dr. Lillian Wang; For Board of Director Position 2: Dr. Gerard Lozada.

Next, Dale Atkinson, Esq., gave a presentation on the history of optometry regulation and the role of government in professional regulation. Dr. William Rafferty, Chair, gave a report on the research done by the Tele-



Dr. Jeffery Yunker presides during the ARBO 2025 Annual Meeting.

health Task Force. He noted that telehealth is a tool, and it does not change the scope of practice or the optometrist's responsibility. Recommendations from the task force included creating a telehealth policy and/or guidance document to assist the public and licensees with navigating telemedicine; requiring an established patient-provider relationship for telemedicine; and requiring optometrists to have an in-state physical practice location. Resources were provided which will also be posted in the member section of ARBO's website.

After a break for lunch, Ms. Kate Regnier, Executive Vice President of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education, presented on the importance of continuing professional development for healthcare professionals. She noted that ACCME collaborates with many other professions, including optometry, to offer consistent, universally adopted CE/CME accreditation standards. Next, Dr. Julie Tyler, Chair, and Ms. Sierra Powell, ARBO's Manager of Accreditation Services, gave a report on the activities of the COPE Governing Council.

This was followed by Dr. Carey Patrick, Chair of the National Board Exam Review Committee, who reviewed the committee's annual report and recommendations regarding the NBEO exams. Next, Dr. Jill Bryant, NBEO Executive Director; Brett Foley, PhD, NBEO Director of Psychometrics and Research; Dr. Nadia Sachinski, NBEO Associate Director of Part I ABS and ACOMO; and Dr. Patrick O'Neill and Dr. Daniel Taylor, NBEO Board members, participated in a panel discussion about the NBEO Examinations that was moderated by Dr. Michael Ohlson, NBEO President.



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Dr. Terri Haley is the  
President of ARBO

It is truly an honor to accept the role of President of the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry. I want to start by thanking our member jurisdictions—thank you for the essential work you do every day to uphold the standards and safety of optometric care. You are the reason the public can trust our profession.

ARBO exists to represent and assist our member licensing agencies in regulating the practice of optometry for the public welfare. That mission isn't just a tagline—it's a responsibility. It guides every decision we make and every partnership we form.

Over the years, I've come to deeply appreciate what makes ARBO special: a fierce commitment to public protection, a collaborative spirit, and a tireless pursuit of regulatory innovation. ARBO partners with you—our regulators—to quietly shape the foundation of safe, ethical, high-quality care across borders and around the world. As I look ahead to the coming year, I'd like to share a few priorities I'll be focusing on as your President.

First, we will strengthen and expand our communication efforts with the various organizations and jurisdictions with whom we interact. Whether it's licensing boards, educational institutions, or our national and international partners, we must foster stronger, more consistent engagement. I'm committed to removing roadblocks, increasing transparency, and clearly defining ARBO's roles and responsibilities when interacting with other organizations.

Second, I support the continued expansion of *OE TRACKER*. As more jurisdictions adopt and integrate this powerful tool, we will reduce administrative burden, improve transparency, and bring consistency to CE chaos.

In addition to those core goals, I'll be exploring new initiatives with your support:

Enhancing Cross-Jurisdictional Collaboration and Mobility - As optometry becomes more global—with other countries looking to expand scope of practice—and in-

## A Letter from the President

creasingly digital, the challenges around cross-border licensure and professional mobility will only grow more complex. ARBO should assess its role in these crucial conversations, including the potential to lead initiatives that enhance collaboration and mobility.

### Regulatory Readiness for AI and Emerging Technologies

Artificial intelligence and telehealth aren't just the future; they are here now. From virtual exams to AI-driven diagnostics, technology is rapidly reshaping how eye care is delivered. We must ensure our regulations keep pace. We'll continue to update our model practice act, ensuring it reflects the realities of modern optometry. Protecting the public demands that we regulate for today's advancements, not yesterday's methods.

### Advancing Data That Drives Smarter Regulation

ARBO is in a unique position to help jurisdictions turn raw information into insight. ARBO collects robust data on key regulatory indicators—valuable insights that can enable jurisdictions to make data-driven, effective policy decisions.

These are ambitious goals—but ARBO is made up of problem-solvers. The strength of ARBO has always been its people: thoughtful, principled, and just scrappy enough to tackle the complex stuff with integrity and heart. Regulation may not be glamorous—but it is powerful. When regulators get it right, they protect the public, elevate the profession, and create systems people can trust. That kind of quiet, steady leadership doesn't always make headlines—but it makes a difference. ARBO is here to support your mission. And, if we can have a little fun along the way? Even better.

So, let's get to work—and let's do it with purpose, pride, and just enough sarcasm to stay human. Thank you very much.

Terri Haley, OD  
ARBO President

Visit ARBO's Facebook page at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Association-of-Regulatory-Boards-of-Optometry/127983077242338?ref=ts>



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Facebook



## New ARBO Board Member and Officers Elected



ARBO is pleased to welcome Dr. Lillian Wang to the Board of Directors. She was elected to the Board during the annual meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota in June 2025.

Dr. Wang is a graduate of New England College of Optometry. She also completed a residency in Pediatrics and Binocular Vision at the University of Houston, University Eye Institute in Houston, Texas. She is currently a Health Sciences Associate Professor at the Herbert Wertheim School of Optometry & Vision Science at University of California, Berkeley.

Dr. Wang has served on the California State Board of Optometry since 2015 and was President of the Board from 2020-2024. She also serves on the ASCO Government Affairs Committee. She has contributed to ARBO by serving on the NBER, Nominating, and *OE TRACK-*

*ER* Committees. She is currently the Co-Chair of the *OE TRACKER* Committee.

Dr. Gerard Lozada was re-elected to the Board of Directors in June after completing a partial term. Dr. Lozada will now serve a 4-year term on the Board. At the meeting, the Board of Directors also elected officers for the 2025-2026 term.

The new officers are:

President—Terri Haley, OD  
Vice President—Margaret Whelan, MPA  
Secretary-Treasurer—Glenn Kawaguchi, OD

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



### A Note from the Chief Executive Officer

It was great to see so many of you at our annual meeting in Minneapolis! There were quite a few members at our meeting for the first time, and it was great to meet you! I really hope you enjoyed the meeting and felt that it was worth your time to attend. We've made some changes to the meeting format in the past few years, and we've gotten positive feedback in response. ARBO's annual meeting is the only opportunity for you to interact with your regulatory colleagues and discuss current topics and shared concerns. The goal of our meeting is to keep you up to date on regulatory issues and best practices in regulation. There is no other meeting like it for Optometry Board members and staff.

We all had a good time in Minneapolis, which was the birthplace of optometric regulation. This year, we increased our travel stipends and scholarships to help overcome budgetary issues and we plan to do it again next year. Don't let lack of funding stop you from coming to our meeting. More information about travel assistance for the 2026 meeting will be sent out early next year.

ARBO is your association and our purpose is to provide programs and services to help our members increase efficiency and do more with less. Consider us an extension of your Board staff. We have a great group of staff who are available to assist you with whatever you need. We continue to add resources for you in our Member Dashboard. The resources from our Telehealth Task Force are posted there to assist you with regulating tele-

optometry. Many of you have asked about this and our task force worked hard to put together information to assist you with navigating this issue.

If you haven't used the dashboard yet, just log in to your member account on our website. You'll find detailed information about your licensees' CE attendance, model documents, webinar recordings and a number of other resources to assist you in your regulatory role. I'd be happy to come to one of your board meetings to discuss ARBO's programs or do a demo of the dashboard. Let me if you're interested.

The ARBO Board of Directors has finalized the new committees and the staff is looking forward to working with them. We are also increasing our communication efforts to help keep you informed about important regulatory issues. We will be continuing our "ARBO Happy Hour" regulatory webinars. The dates and topics of the webinars can be found on our website. You can also visit our blog at [blog.arbo.org](http://blog.arbo.org), to find more useful regulatory information.

I hope everyone had a great summer. I know I'm looking forward to the cooler weather of fall and pumpkin spiced everything! ARBO is here to help you. Just let us know what you need! Feel free to contact me at [LFennell@arbo.org](mailto:LFennell@arbo.org) with your questions or suggestions.

Lisa Fennell, Chief Executive Officer

## ARBO Annual Meeting Recap (*continued*)

Later in the afternoon, the delegates discussed issues of interest in their jurisdiction. The afternoon ended with Dr. Yunker calling for nominations from the floor for each open position on the Board of Directors. Each nominee was given a few minutes to address the delegates, and the meeting was recessed for the day.

Dr. Yunker reconvened the meeting in the morning on Monday, June 23, 2025. Dr. Michelle Cooper, Chair of the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee, reported that one resolution was received this year for the delegates' consideration. She reviewed the resolution to Include ARBO on Member Board Meeting Agendas. Next, Dr. Terri Haley, Vice-President and Chair of the Finance Committee, presented the proposed 2026 Budget. This was followed by an interactive session with Dale Atkinson, Esq. on Optometry Board structure and governance, and improving the effectiveness of Boards.

After that, Dr. Eric Bailey, Dr. Lillian Wang, Co-Chairs, and Ms. Brittany Howard, ARBO's Program Specialist, gave the attendees a report on the activities of the *OE TRACKER* Committee including a demonstration of the *OE TRACKER* mobile app. This was followed by Dr. Richard Castillo, Founding Dean of the University of North Carolina College of Optometric Medicine, who presented research on predictors of Optometry Board Exam performance.

Next, Dr. Jill Bryant, NBEO Executive Director; Brett Foley, PhD, NBEO Director of Psychometrics and Research; Dr. Jamie Althoff, NBEO Associate Director of Part II PAM/TMOD & LSPE and Amanda Wolkowitz, PhD, Director of Psychometrics, Data Recognitions Corporation, participated in a panel session to answer questions submitted by ARBO's members regarding the NBEO Exams. The morning concluded with a panel of Optometry Board Attorneys moderated by Dale Atkinson, Esq. Megan Borchert, JD, Assistant Attorney General in South Dakota; Rhonda Edwards, JD, Assistant Attorney General in Maryland; and Alexandra Mountain, JD, Assistant Attorney General in Minnesota, discussed legal issues in their states and answered questions from the delegates.

After lunch, Kim Navarre, MS, LMFT, Program Director, and Sheila Specker, MD, Medical Consultant, gave a presentation on the Minnesota Health Professional Services Program which promotes early intervention, diagnosis and treatment for health professionals and provides monitoring services for regulatory Boards. Next, Lindsey Franklin, JD, Legislative Liaison for the Minnesota Health Professionals Regulatory Boards discussed the legislative process and presented strategies for Regulatory Boards to engage with legislators.

The afternoon concluded with two workshops for the attendees. Dale Atkinson, Esq. discussed statutory interpretation of laws, trends in regulation, and top regulatory cases. A concurrent session was held by NBEO discussing

their planned IT upgrades and how they are improving the administration and score reporting of the exams.

Dr. Jeffery Yunker reconvened the meeting on Tuesday, June 24th. The delegates approved the 2026 budget and the resolution that had been presented. (full resolution on p. 6) Dr. Yunker then presided over the election for the Board of Directors. Dr. Lillian Wang was elected for Board of Directors Position 1 and Dr. Gerard Lozada was elected for Board of Directors Position 2.

Next, Dale Atkinson, Esq. moderated a panel that included Dr. Brian Beattie, President, North Dakota State Board of Optometry; Dr. Jill Bryant, NBEO Executive Director; Ajay Gohil, JD, Assistant Attorney General, District of Columbia; and Gregory Pruden, Executive Officer, California State Board of Optometry. The panelists responded to questions from the delegates giving their unique perspectives based on their different regulatory roles. After a short break, Dr. Jeffery Yunker reported that the Board of Directors had elected the following officers for the 2025-2026 administrative year: President: Dr. Terri Haley, Vice President: Margaret Whelan, Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Glenn Kawaguchi.

Later in the morning, Grant Minix, Policy Analyst for the National Center for Interstate Compacts, The Council of State Governments, gave an overview of interstate licensure compacts for the delegates. This was followed by a report on the activities of the ACOE by Dr. Timothy Petito, Chair; Dr. Julie DeKinder, Vice Chair, and Ms. Stephanie Puljak, ACOE Director.

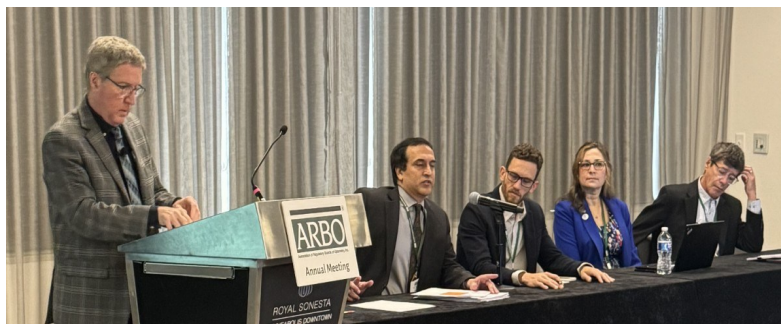
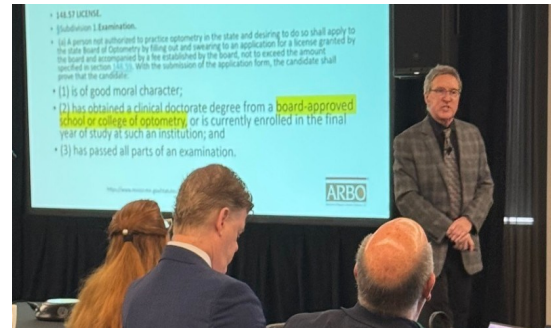
Next, Dr. Yunker presented an award to Dr. Donovan Crouch to thank him for his many years of service to the profession of optometry. Then all ARBO past Presidents in attendance lined up to pass the gavel: Dr. Donovan Crouch (2001-2002), Dr. Robert Easton, Jr. (2006-2007), Dr. William Rafferty (2009-2010), Dr. Roger Pabst (2014-2015), Dr. Susy Yu (2015-2016), Dr. James Campbell (2019-2020), Dr. Patrick O'Neill (2020-2021), Dr. Coby Ramsey (2021-2023), Dr. Jeffery Yunker (2023-2025), Dr. Terri Haley (2025-2026).

After the passing of the gavel, newly elected President Dr. Terri Haley gave some remarks to the delegates about her plans for the next year. Dr. Yunker then thanked the delegates for coming to the meeting and the meeting was adjourned.





## ARBO Annual Meeting Recap (continued)



## Annual Meeting Approved Resolution

### **2025 Approved Resolution Include ARBO on Member Board Meeting Agendas**

WHEREAS, the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization recognized as exempt from federal taxation; and

WHEREAS, this tax status is based upon the purpose of ARBO providing programs and services that promote uniformity and lessen burdens on government while enhancing the effectiveness and efficiencies of optometry regulatory boards; and

WHEREAS, ARBO is a membership organization whose members (Member Boards) comprise the state, provincial, and international government boards legislatively delegated with the authority to regulate the profession of optometry in the interest of public protection; and

WHEREAS, ARBO continually strives to communicate with its Member Boards to develop and maintain their knowledge of the organization, encourage their use of offered programs and services, and seek suggestions for new programs and services within the mission of ARBO; and

WHEREAS, Member Boards publicly meet on a regular basis, during which time there is opportunity for Member Board members and staff to learn about and receive updates from ARBO; and

WHEREAS, placement of ARBO on each scheduled Member Board meeting agenda would benefit Member Boards by increasing their knowledge of ARBO and allow them to contribute ideas to ARBO for enhancing and developing programs and services for the Member Boards; and

WHEREAS ARBO Member Boards are ARBO and are encouraged to be knowledgeable about and participate in their organization.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Member Boards of ARBO will explore inclusion of ARBO on each meeting agenda to inform members, staff, and other constituents about ARBO, its programs and services, and to encourage meaningful participation in all benefits of membership; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Member Boards inform ARBO by October 1, 2025, of the status of inclusion on Member Board meeting agendas, or if not able to include ARBO on meeting agendas, the reason why;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ARBO develop a plan for providing Member Boards with materials for use at Member Board meetings and any other support needed.

*Approved by the ARBO House of Delegates June 24, 2025.*



## Start Making Plans for ARBO's 2026 Annual Meeting

### Mark Your Calendars for June 13-14 to attend the 2026 ARBO Annual Meeting!

The 106<sup>th</sup> ARBO Annual Meeting is taking place in Phoenix, Arizona. ARBO's 2026 Annual Meeting will be held at the Renaissance Hotel in downtown Phoenix. The Renaissance boasts an ideal location near an incredible array of downtown attractions, including the Phoenix Convention Center, Chase Field, PHX Arena, and the Phoenix Art Museum. Surrounded by the city's cultural institutions, cocktail bars, and live music venues, it remains the definitive place to discover a city that's always reimagining itself.

Phoenix is known for its year-round sun and warm temperatures, it anchors a sprawling, multicounty metropolitan area known as the Valley of the Sun. It's known for high-end spa resorts, Jack Nicklaus–designed golf courses and vibrant nightclubs. Other highlights include the Desert Botanical Garden, displaying cacti and numerous native plants. You will definitely want to be there!



**More information and online registration will be available in early 2026.**

**We look forward to seeing you in Phoenix!**

## New Feature Added to the OE TRACKER Mobile App

ARBO recently added a new feature to the *OE TRACKER* mobile app to make it even more user-friendly. Now users can email, print, or save a copy of their CE course history right from the mobile app. To use the new feature, open your app and log in to your *OE TRACKER* account. Then, go to "History" at the bottom of your screen and touch the down arrow in the top right corner of your screen. Choose whether you want to print your course history, email it, or save it into a file. You can easily change the date range of your course history by touching the calendar icon in the top right corner of your screen.

The *OE TRACKER* mobile app is available for iPhones/iPads and Android phones and tablets. Simply go to the app store or to Google play and search for *OE TRACKER*. The app is free to download and is a valuable tool for optometrists to use to record and track their continuing education courses. Optometrists can also check the CE requirements for license renewal in every state and province where they are licensed and view their progress towards meeting those requirements.

**Touch the down arrow to print, email or save your course history.**

**Touch the calendar icon to change the date range of your course history.**

**Go to History to view your CE course history.**

History	Category	Format
RESULTS FROM (08/28/2024 - 08/28/2025) Total Hours : 12.00 Hours		
Mastering Ocular Surface Disease: A Comprehensive Guide to Diagnosis, Treatment, and Practice Management >		
98013-TD	08/28/2025	
Scott Caughell	1.0 Hrs	
Diagnosing and Treating Neurotrophic Keratitis >		
98770-TD	08/22/2025	
Justin Schweitzer	1.0 Hrs	
JA What We Know About Tears >		
96376-TD	03/01/2025	
Jessica Steen	0.5 Hrs	
JA First Aid Certification - Online CPR and First Aid Training Course >		
96208-PB	02/01/2025	
Jehangir Gowani	1.5 Hrs	
Choroidal Melanocytic Tumors >		
95246-SD	12/19/2024	
Arun Singh	1.0 Hrs	
AP ACE: The Lost Art of Corneal GP Fitting for Regular Corneas >		

**OE TRACKER®**

Home History Profile Submit Scan

## COPE News



### COPE Reaffirms Substantive Equivalency with Medicine

The Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE®) is pleased to announce that the COPE Continuing Education Accreditation system has reaffirmed Substantive Equivalency to the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME®) CME accreditation system, a status that COPE has proudly held since 2017.

#### Why this is important for Optometrists and Optometry:

- COPE accredited CE is designed to support relevant, evidence-based, and independent learning free from commercial influence.
- COPE accreditation means the education received is deemed equivalent to colleagues in medicine.
- COPE accredited CE is designed around the identified educational needs of optometrists, providing them the tools needed to expand skills and enhance patient care.

#### Why this is important for CE Providers:

- COPE's Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited CE (SII) create a clear, compliant framework for industry support, helping CE Providers secure educational grants for CE activities.
  - Adopted from the ACCME and aligned with other health professions, COPE's SII provide consistency and credibility across the health care landscape.
- COPE accredited CE expands the network of potential learners:
  - COPE's rigorous standards ensure integrity and freedom from commercial influence.
  - COPE Accredited CE is universally accepted by licensing agencies in the U.S. and Canada.

#### Why this is important for ARBO's Member Licensing Agencies:

- COPE accreditation guarantees consistent, high-quality continuing education across all delivery formats and providers.
- COPE accredited CE provides confidence that licensees are meeting the highest standards of continuing competence for patient protection and improved health outcomes.
- COPE accreditation provides a quality foundation of continuing education for regulatory change as scope of optometric practice expands.

*For reference, CE/CME Accreditors may obtain Substantive Equivalency through the ACCME if they support CE/CME that:*

- *Enhances provider performance.*
- *Is based on data describing providers' educational needs.*
- *Has effectiveness assessed as it relates to provider performance or health status improvements, (measuring outcomes and determining if the educational objectives were met).*
- *Is developed independent of commercial influence.*

For more information about the COPE CE Accreditation program, please reach out to Sierra Powell, Manager of Accreditation Services, at [spowell@arbo.org](mailto:spowell@arbo.org) or 704-970-2771.



## Join Us for One of our Upcoming Webinars

### Test Talk Webinar Series

Join ARBO and NBEO for our September Test Talk webinar featuring the Part III Patient Encounters and Performance Skills (PEPS) Exam and the Laser & Surgical Procedures Exam.

The webinar is taking place on September 30, 2025 at 1:00 pm ET / 12:00 pm CT / 11:00 am MT / 10:00 am PT.

Bring any questions you have about the exams and we will be happy to answer them. Register for the webinar on our website at <https://www.arbo.org/regulatory-webinars>



### COPE Reviewer Webinar

Join ARBO and other COPE Reviewers for an engaging and informative webinar on October 16, 2025 at 8:15 pm ET / 7:15 pm CT / 6:15 pm MT / 5:15 pm PT.

The webinar will cover questions related to the course review process, COPE's Standards for Integrity and Independence, how to perform an on-site review, as well as open Q&A with the COPE staff. COPE Reviewers can register for the webinar on our website at <https://www.arbo.org/cope-webinars>



## CE Auditing Service for Member Boards



ARBO has a benefit for member licensing boards that you may not be aware of, CE auditing services using *OE TRACKER*. Member boards have been able to utilize various auditing reports generated from *OE TRACKER* for many years. Now, ARBO has gone a step further and will complete the audit for you. This comes after several member boards have shown an interest in doing more extensive audits, but have expressed concerns about internal resources and the amount of time it takes to complete an audit.

Included in ARBO's auditing services are a verification of state/provincial CE requirements and review of the CE hours earned by each licensee/registrant to determine if the requirements for license renewal

have been met. ARBO is also able to send deficiency notices to licensees/registrants that are not in compliance, if desired. Member boards who have utilized ARBO's auditing services include the Tennessee Board of Optometry, Louisiana State Board of Optometry, and Wyoming Board of Optometry.

Fees for ARBO's auditing service will vary depending on your jurisdiction's CE requirements, number of licensees/registrants and percentage being audited.

If your board is interested in learning more about ARBO's auditing service, please contact Lisa Fennell at [lfennell@arbo.org](mailto:lfennell@arbo.org).

**Want more regulatory information?  
Check out our blog at  
[blog.arbo.org](https://blog.arbo.org)**

## NBEO Update



### National Board of Examiners in Optometry Opens New Optometry Testing Center

*The National Center of Clinical Testing in Optometry welcomes optometry candidates from across North America as they take licensure exams.*

**CHARLOTTE, NC** – The [National Board of Examiners in Optometry \(NBEO\)](#), responsible for developing and administering nationwide optometry licensure exams, opened their new National Center of Clinical Testing in Optometry with a ribbon-cutting ceremony Thursday, September 5, 2025.

- Every optometry candidate in the United States must pass NBEO's exams to receive licensure to enter into clinical practice. The new National Center of Clinical Testing in Optometry will host candidates for several licensure exams, including NBEO's Part III Patient Encounters and Performance Skills (PEPS®) exam in which candidates demonstrate their case analysis and critical thinking ability in a simulated-live patient encounter. Other clinical exams administered at the NCCTO include the Injections Skill Examination (ISE®) and the Laser and Surgical Procedures Examination (LSPE®).

The new center includes:

- Double the previous testing capacity to accommodate the increasing number of optometry candidates.
- Upgraded IT infrastructure to enhance the candidate experience.
- Ample space for both candidates and standardized patients, NBEO's employees who simulate real world patient conditions that an optometrist may treat in practice.
- Proximity to Charlotte Douglas International Airport for convenient travel from the nation's 25 optometry schools and colleges.

"This upgraded facility is an example of NBEO's commitment to public protection through optometric competency assessment," said Dr. Jill Bryant, executive director of NBEO. "We are thrilled to unveil this facility and welcome optometry candidates nationwide as they embark on their path to licensure."

The grand opening included speeches from NBEO leadership, Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry leadership, and tours of the new testing center. North Carolina Representatives Brandon Lofton and Terry Brown, and Charlotte City Councilmember LaWana Mayfield were in attendance.

## NBEO Update

“NBEO remains committed to providing high-quality, standardized testing environments for optometry candidates,” said Dr. Michael Ohlson, president of NBEO’s board of directors. “This new testing center does just that, along with simulating real-life patient encounters during the Part III exam. We’re beyond excited to host future optometrists.”

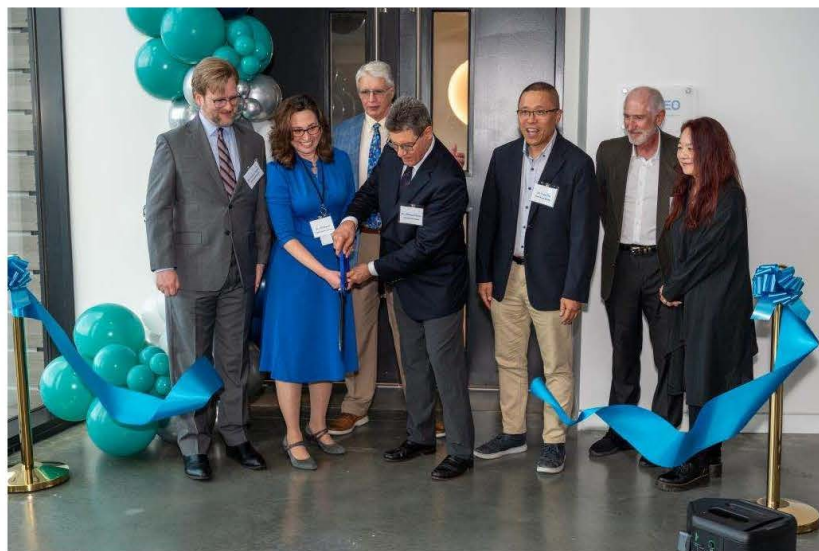
NBEO’s three-part licensure exam series confirms that candidates possess the required knowledge and skill for licensure, and can competently and safely treat patients across North America.

NBEO’s National Center of Clinical Testing in Optometry will host thousands of optometry candidates from optometry schools across the continent at the Charlotte facility each year as they embark on their journey to licensure, positioning Charlotte as a leader in the optometry profession.

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### About the National Board of Examiners in Optometry

Established in 1951, NBEO is an independent, non-governmental, nonprofit organization whose examinations are universally accepted for optometric licensure in the United States and recognized internationally. The mission of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry is to protect the public by developing, administering, scoring, and reporting results of valid examinations that assess competency in optometry. NBEO’s eight-member board of directors is composed of members from across the United States nominated by the [Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry](#) (ARBO) and the [Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry](#) (ASCO), as well as one public member.







## 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](http://www.arbo.org) and click on COPE, then click on "COPE Reviewers" and "Become a Reviewer" or send an email to [arbo@arbo.org](mailto:arbo@arbo.org).***

### **ARBO BOARD OF DIRECTORS— OFFICERS:**

President—Terri Haley, OD

Vice President—Margaret Whelan, MPA

Secretary-Treasurer—Glenn Kawaguchi, OD

### **DIRECTORS:**

Eric Bailey, OD

Luanne Chubb, OD, FAAO

James Campbell, OD

Gerard Lozada, OD

Patrick O'Neill, OD, FAAO

Linda Tharp, OD

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

Jessi McVean, Customer Service Manager

Sierra Powell, Manager of Accreditation Services

Audrey Vazquez, Senior Program Specialist



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