

Title 20—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE
Division 2210—State Board of Optometry
Chapter 2—General Rules

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

20 CSR 2210-2.030 License Renewal. The board is amending section (10).

PURPOSE: This proposed amendment reduces restrictions on how licensees can obtain continuing education hours.

(10) The following guidelines govern the attendance of educational optometric programs for license renewal:

(C) Educational programs that currently are approved, except as noted in subsection (11)(B), as meeting the minimum standards, include the following:

1. Educational meetings of the American Optometric Association (AOA);
2. Educational meetings of the National Optometric Association (NOA);
3. Educational meetings of the Missouri Optometric Association or any other state or regional optometric association affiliated with the American Optometric Association. This excludes local society meetings unless the courses are *[Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE)-approved or the course receives prior state board approval]* **approved by an entity pursuant to this rule;**
4. Scientific sections and continuing education courses of the American Academy of Optometry;
5. Postgraduate courses offered *[at]* by any accredited college of optometry;
6. Educational meetings of the Southern Council of Optometrists;
7. Educational meetings approved by the COPE;
8. Educational meetings of the North Central States Optometric Council;
9. Educational meetings of the Heart of America Optometric Congress and the Heart of America Contact Lens Society;
10. Educational meetings of the College of Optometrists in Vision Development;
11. Educational meetings of the Optometric Extension Program; and
12. Optometric related meetings of any accredited school of medicine;

(E) Of the thirty-two (32) hours of board-approved continuing education required for license renewal, no more than sixteen (16) hours may be obtained through distance learning methods such as correspondence courses, online only courses, magazine articles, or other methods where the licensee is not physically present with the course speaker or presenter. **Live interactive virtual presentations shall not be considered distance learning courses and as such shall not be restricted.**

AUTHORITY: section 336.080, RSMo 2016, and section 336.160.1, RSMo Supp. 2018. * This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 210-2.030. Original rule filed Dec. 19, 1975, effective Dec. 29, 1975. For intervening history, please consult the Code of State Regulations. Amended: Filed August 7, 2020.

PUBLIC COST: This proposed amendment will not cost state agencies or political subdivisions more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the aggregate.

PRIVATE COST: This proposed amendment will not cost private entities more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the aggregate.

*NOTICE TO SUBMIT COMMENTS: Anyone may file a statement in support of or in opposition to this proposed amendment with the Board of Optometry, PO Box 1335, Jefferson City, MO 65102, by facsimile at 573-751-8216 or via email at optometry@pr.mo.gov. To be considered, comments must be received within thirty (30) days after publication of this notice in the **Missouri Register**. No public hearing is scheduled.*