

Skill Examinations

Candidates for the National Optician's Practical Skill Examination will be required to perform the following task(s) as assigned. Each task(s), spectacles, and contact lens, requires 60 minutes to complete.

SPECTACLES Examination

1. Measurement of Monocular Pupillary Distance
2. Measurement of Objective Segment Height
3. Neutralization of Spectacles

CONTACT LENS Examination

1. Corneal Curvature Measurement (Keratometry)

National Commission of State Opticianry Regulatory Boards

National Commission of State
Opticianry Regulatory Boards (NCSORB®)
2025 Woodlane Drive
Woodbury, MN 55125-2998
Phone: (855) 208-9349
Fax: (651) 731-0410
E-mail: ncsorb@jcahpo.org
Web site: www.ncsorb.org

National Optician's
Practical Examination

Spectacles & Contact Lens Examinations

Candidate Checklists

CONTACT LENS EXAMINATION CORNEAL CURVATURE MEASUREMENT (KERATOMETRY)

MEASURE THE CORNEAL CURVATURE ON A MANUAL KERATOMETER AND RECORD THE RESULTS

CHECK CORNEAL CURVATURE

- Focus the eyepiece
- Position the keratometer
 - Horizontally
 - Vertically
 - Distance from the patient
 - Rotate the Drum
 - Adjust axis
- Adjust horizontal and vertical powers

RECORD AND SUBMIT RESULTS

- Record results
- Submit results

Passing Score: 100%

Tolerance Ranges:

Horizontal Power	+/- .25 D
Vertical Power	+/- .25 D
Horizontal Axis	+/- 5 degrees
Vertical Axis	+/- 5 degrees

HOW THE SPECTACLE AND CONTACT LENS EXAMINATIONS ARE SCORED

There are two possible results for the task included in the Skill Examination:

Pass: You have successfully completed all tasks.

Fail: You did not successfully complete the required tasks; you must retake the tasks that were not passed.

To pass any individual task, a passing score must be achieved. Passing percentages for the tasks range from 70 – 100%.

To evaluate the accuracy of results, the tolerance ranges indicated for each of the required categories have been established by a panel of opticianry experts. To receive a passing score all required results for the task must fall within the published tolerance ranges. Otherwise, a “fail” will be assigned for the specific task.

Non-Scored Items:

In addition to scored items, all candidates receive sample questions. While they are not identified or scored, these items are being tested for possible inclusion in future examinations.

Examination Timing:

Spectacles

Initial Simulated Examination - 60 Minutes

Spectacles Retest(s)

1. Measurement of Monocular Pupillary Distance - 10 minutes
2. Measurement of Objective Segment Height - 10 Minutes
3. Neutralization of Spectacles – 40 Minutes

Contact Lenses

Initial Simulated Examination – 60 Minutes

Contact Lens Retest(s)

1. Corneal Curvature Measurement – 10 Minutes
2. Contact Lens Images and Conditions of the Eye - 20 Minutes
3. Evaluation of a Contact Lens Using a Slit Lamp - 10 Minutes
4. Slit Lamp Operation – 20 Minutes

SPECTACLE AND CONTACT LENS EXAMINATION PREPARATION

It is highly recommended to prepare for the examination(s) in the following manner:

1. Review the National Optician's Practical Examination tutorial carefully.
2. Review the tutorial again the day before the examination(s).
3. Read, understand, and commit to memory the Candidate Checklist.
4. Understand what is expected of each task(s).
5. Practice the skills with co-workers or another optician.
6. Consult with co-workers or an optician to critique your skills.

Taking the examination(s):

1. Take your time.
2. Read the instructions, task description, and expected results carefully and completely.
3. Be methodical in performing each task(s).
4. Read dials carefully.
5. Double-check your findings.
6. Restart the task(s) if you are dissatisfied with your results.
7. Always record your results and press the "Complete Task" button when satisfied with your data or results.