

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

CHECKLISTS

The following checklists have been developed using best practices. It is highly recommended that you review the checklists, as well as the tutorial **carefully** prior to taking the simulated Spectacles and the Contact Lens examination(s). The term "given" in a checklist indicates that the step will already be completed for you. It is not necessary to perform the step.

Tutorial Focus Points

The tutorial located at www.NCSORB.org provides you with important information on the mechanics of the simulated Spectacle and Contact Lens examinations. Use the tutorial to become familiar with the following:

- General information about the procedures and processes
- Methods for starting, moving through, and completing the various tasks
- The selection and use of buttons in the task screens
- Adjusting various instrument/equipment using the computer interface
- Recording and submitting results

SPECTACLE EXAMINATION MEASUREMENT OF MONOCULAR PUPILLARY DISTANCE

MEASUREMENT OF MONOCULAR PUPILLARY DISTANCE

PERFORM MONOCULAR PUPILLARY DISTANCE MEASUREMENT

- Position Pupilometer (Given)
- Measure the monocular distance PD
- Measure the monocular near PD

RECORD AND SUBMIT RESULTS

- Record results for distance PD
- Record results for near PD
- Submit Results

Passing Score: 100%

Tolerance Ranges:

Interpupillary Distance +/- .25 mm

MEASUREMENT OF OBJECTIVE SEGMENT HEIGHT

MEASURE OBJECTIVE SEGMENT HEIGHT

- Measure objective segment height for three specific frames

RECORD AND SUBMIT RESULTS

- Record results for specific frames
- Submit results for specific frames
-

Passing Score: 70%

Tolerance Ranges:

Segment Height	
Progressive	+/- 1.0 mm
Bifocal	+/- 1.0 mm
Trifocal	+/- 1.0 mm

SPECTACLE EXAMINATION NEUTRALIZE SPECTACLES

RECORD PRESCRIPTION FOR EACH LENS ON TWO SETS OF SPECTACLES, IDENTIFY PRISM (IF PRESENT) IN EACH LENS FOR BOTH SETS OF SPECTACLES, RECORD RESULTS IN MINUS CYLINDER FORM

VIEW LENSES

- Focus eyepiece (Given)
- Place spectacles on the stage (Given)
- Center lens on the stage
- Adjust axis dial
- Adjust power drum
- Read the lens to identify axis, power & bifocal add
- Identify prism power and direction if present

RECORD AND SUBMIT RESULTS

- Record results for both lenses on two sets of frames
- Submit results for both lenses on two sets of frames

Passing Score: 75%

Tolerance Ranges:

Sphere	+/- 0.25 mm
Cylinder	+/- 0.25 D
Bifocal Add	+/- 0.25 D
Prism	+/- 0.25 D
Axis	+/- 3 degrees

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 – 10 Minutes

Contact Lens Retest(s)

1. Corneal Curvature Measurement – 10 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.