

Standards of Practice and Practice Guidelines – Request for Feedback

The College is seeking your feedback on proposed updates to the [Standards of Practice and Practice Guidelines](#).

Why is the College requesting feedback?

Before finalizing the draft, we want to hear from you about the proposed updates. Your input is vital to help ensure the updated Standards and Guidelines are clear, relevant, and reflective of current and emerging practice trends.

Why are the Standards and Guidelines being updated?

The College reviews the Standards of Practice and Practice Guidelines every 5 years (or more frequently, as required) to:

- ensure they remain relevant
- address emerging trends
- identify any gaps
- resolve any areas that may be unclear
- ensure alignment with current technologies and regulatory requirements

The last full review was completed in 2019, and the latest review began in 2024.

The Clinical Practice Committee is proposing updates to the Standards and Guidelines based on:

- Input from registrants and other system partners during an initial consultation carried out in 2024, including areas that were identified as potentially needing clarification or where registrants in particular, were looking for more guidance
- Emerging practice trends, technologies, and evolving patient expectations, as identified by the College during various consultations over the last year
- Recent changes to legislation and regulations affecting opticians' practice

What are the key changes being proposed?

The proposed updates aim to ensure the Standards and Guidelines continue to provide clear and relevant guidance to registrants on delivering safe, ethical, and effective care.

Some of the key changes being proposed by the Clinical Practice Committee include:

- Updating Standard 3 (Dispensing of Appropriate Optical Devices) to include criteria related to dispensing of specialty lenses
- Updating Standard 7 (Remote Practice & Technology) to include criteria around incorporating and using technology in any aspect of practice
- Updating Standard 10 (Delegation) to account for the discontinuation of refraction designations
- Introducing or updating Practice Guidelines in the following areas:
 - Professional Judgement
 - Sexual abuse
 - Treating spouses, family, or friends
 - Remote delivery of contact lenses

- Record keeping, including documentation, selling a practice, or retiring, and privacy requirements
- Discontinuing service to a patient
- Technology and the use of Artificial Intelligence
- The use of social media and responding to online reviews

How Can You Provide Feedback?

Please complete the survey found [here](#) by October 14, 2025.

Thank you for taking the time to provide valuable input. The time you have spent reviewing the Standards of Practice and Practice Guidelines and completing the survey can be counted toward your 2025 Non-Accredited, Self-Directed Hour requirements for your Professional Portfolio.