

REGISTRANT AND STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE REGISTRATION REGULATION

The College of Opticians is seeking your feedback on proposed amendments to the Registration Regulation for registered opticians.

On April 14, 2022, the Ontario government enacted Bill 106, the *Pandemic and Emergency Preparedness Act, 2022*. Bill 106 requires all health regulatory colleges to create an emergency class of registration. The emergency class will provide a temporary but expedited path to registration for opticians in the event of a public health emergency.

Key features of the proposed Temporary Emergency Class

Who will be eligible to register as a Temporary Emergency Class optician?

The emergency class will be available to opticians who have been out of practice for over three years but are able to demonstrate evidence of having practised opticianry in the previous six years.

What are the conditions of the Temporary Emergency Class of registration?

Registrants in the temporary emergency class will be required to carry professional liability insurance, be eligible to work in Canada, and practice the profession only within the scope of their skills, knowledge, and judgment.

What will trigger the ability to apply for a certificate in the Temporary Emergency Class?

The temporary emergency class will only be available when the Board of Directors decides that there is a need to open the emergency class in order to address a public health emergency.

When will the Temporary Emergency Class come into effect?

Once approved by the Ontario Government, the Temporary Emergency Class will come into effect on August 31, 2023.

Links to Details of the Proposed Changes

A breakdown of the proposed revisions to the Registration Regulation that will establish a Temporary Emergency Class, together with rationales, can be viewed [here](#).

The full text of the Registration Regulation with proposed changes relating to the Temporary Emergency Class can be viewed [here](#).

Please note that an earlier proposal to amend the College's current Registration Regulation was submitted to the Ministry of Health in 2017. That proposal is awaiting approval by the Ontario Government. The current proposal to establish a Temporary Emergency Class has been drafted as a further amendment to the amendments proposed in 2017.

Click [here](#) to provide your comments or feedback by March 28, 2023.