



Andy Beshear
GOVERNOR

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BOARD OF OPTOMETRIC EXAMINERS**

100 Consumer Lane
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
(502) 234-2114

Joe Ellis, OD
PRESIDENT

Christi LeMay
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

October 16, 2025

Board Statement Regarding Kentucky Attorney General's Opinion

Protecting the public will always be the highest priority of the Kentucky Board of Optometric Examiners. The Board was pleased with the Attorney General's opinion stating that the Board acted within its authority to accept another clinically valid examination for the purpose of granting licensure.

During the declared State of Emergency, the Board resolved to accept clinical competency evaluations given at schools and colleges of optometry in lieu of Part 3 of the exam administered by the National Board of Examiners in Optometry. This was done to reduce the necessity of applicants' out-of-state travel and additional in-person contacts. Although the Board acted in accord with the guidance it received at the time, the recent Attorney General's opinion indicated that the Board should have acted through the formal regulatory process.

The Board has reviewed the Attorney General's opinion and intends to take timely and appropriate action.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe E. Ellis, O.D.".

Joe E. Ellis, OD
President, KBOE