

MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2001
RULE ADOPTION

LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF

OPHTHALMIC DISPENSERS AND OPHTHALMIC TECHNICIANS

**SCOPE OF PRACTICE OF OPHTHALMIC DISPENSERS AND OPHTHALMIC
TECHNICIANS**

Additions to proposals are indicated by <<+ Text +>>; deletions from proposals are indicated by <<- Text ->>.

Changes in tables are made but not highlighted.

Adopted New Rules: N.J.A.C. 13:33-1.17 and 1.18

Proposed: April 17, 2000 at 32 N.J.R. 1283(a).

Adopted: July 12, 2000 by the New Jersey State Board of Examiners of Ophthalmic Dispensers and Ophthalmic Technicians, Robert Troast, President.

Filed: February 23, 2001 as R.2001 d.96, with a substantive change not requiring additional public notice and comment (see N.J.A.C. 1:30-4.3).

Authority: N.J.S.A. 52:17B-41.13.

Effective Date: **March 19, 2001.**

Expiration Date: March 10, 2005.

Federal Standards Statement

A Federal standards analysis is not required because the adopted new rules are governed by N.J.S.A. 45:1-3.2 and 45:11-50 and are not subject to any Federal requirements or standards.

Full text of the adoption follows:

<< NJ ADC 13:33-1.17 >>

13:33-1.17 Ophthalmic dispenser: definition; scope of practice

(a) A licensed ophthalmic dispenser prepares and dispenses to the intended wearer lenses, spectacles, eyeglasses, appurtenances thereto, or contact lenses only if those preparations are based on a written prescription from a licensed physician or licensed optometrist. A licensed ophthalmic dispenser also duplicates or replaces existing lenses, spectacles, eyeglasses, appurtenances, or contact lenses.

(b) The following functions are within the scope of practice of a licensed ophthalmic dispenser:

1. Those activities performed by licensed ophthalmic technicians as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:33-1.18(b);
2. <<-The verification of the lenses, spectacles, eyeglasses or contact lenses, which correct the patient's visual anomaly, by use of a Snellen or Yeager chart, titmus analyzer, or similar instrument->> <<+The determination that the lenses, spectacles, eyeglasses or contact lenses prepared and dispensed comport with the prescription that corrects the patient's visual anomaly+>>;
3. The analysis and interpretation of prescriptions and lens design;
4. The taking of interpupillary distances (distance and near) and bifocal, trifocal, and progressive placement measurements;
5. The selection and measurement of frames for facial contour: eye size, bridge size, temple length, frame shape, and frame style;
6. The fitting, adjusting, or adapting of eyewear to the face and eyes;
7. The dispensing of contact lenses pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:33-4.1;
8. The mailing of completed eyeglasses pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:33-1.28; and
9. The mailing of contact lenses pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:33-4.1.

<< NJ ADC 13:33-1.18 >>

13:33-1.18 Ophthalmic technician: definition; scope of practice

(a) A licensed ophthalmic technician is one who has knowledge of optics, is skilled in the technique of producing and reproducing ophthalmic lenses and kindred products and mounting the same to supporting materials.

(b) The following functions are within the scope of practice of a licensed ophthalmic technician:

1. The reading and transposing of a prescription or work order for lenses;
2. The grinding of lenses; inspection of surface quality; determination of optical, mechanical, and geometric centers, prisms, lens powers, base curves, cross curves, cylinder location, multifocal lenses, progressive lenses, colors (tints and coatings), neutralization, optical cross, optical lens graph, power drum readings, and transposition;
3. The mounting of lenses in frames; evaluation of measurements and sizes (eye, vertical, horizontal, pupillary distances, bridge size, temple style, and length) and use of the boxing system;
4. The verification of the lens conformity to either the written prescription or to the lenses being duplicated using a lensometer, vertometer, or any other method of verifying prescriptions;
5. The inspection of a lens; locating of the appropriate meridians of power, centering and marking the lens, decentering of the lens for the major reference point, blocking the lens for edging, inserting lens in edger with pattern or without patternless edgers, determining appropriate size and bevel position; assessing safety bevels and crowning the lens, and performing bench alignment; and
6. Inspection of completed eyeglasses.