



200 South College Street, Suite 1920 ♦ Charlotte, NC 28202  
 Tel: 704.332.9565 ♦ 1-800-969-3926 Fax: 704.332.9568 ♦ Email: [www.optometry.org](http://www.optometry.org)  
 Founded by: Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry ♦ Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry

Date	Description	Number of Items	Length (hours)	Session	Test Time*
August 2-3, 2011	Part I Applied Basic Science	500	14	1 - Aug 2	8:30 am – 12:00 pm *
				2 - Aug 2	1:30 pm – 5:00 pm *
				3 - Aug 3	8:30 am – 12:00 pm *
				4 - Aug 3	1:30 pm – 5:00 pm *

\*Actual test time, not including registration, seating and instructions.

### WHEN TO REPORT TO THE WRITTEN TEST CENTER

(Testing locations for written exams on pages 5-6)

In order to allow adequate time to be checked in and to receive test instructions, **Candidates should report to the test centers at least 30 minutes before the exam starting times listed above.** Test instructions will be read about 15 minutes prior to the above start time, so that exams can begin as scheduled.

If you are taking the test in an unfamiliar city, make a practice trip from where you are staying to the test center so that you have some familiarity with the route, traffic patterns, parking facilities, and/or public transportation. Addresses for written test centers are listed on pages 5 and 6. Directions/maps for test centers can be found at <http://www.optometry.org/maps.cfm>. If you arrive late for the examination, additional time will not be given at the end of the session. In case of inclement weather, allow extra travel time.

### BRING TO EXAM

Bring your acceptable and valid ID (see ID information below) and OE TRACKER # (OE TRACKER #s are listed on the exam verification letters; you do not need to bring the actual OET card). The test room may be colder or warmer than expected. Dress comfortably in layers; bring a sweater or jacket. It is advisable to bring a watch, as it may be difficult to see the room clock. Cell phones may NOT be used as a timekeeper.

The Exam Verification Letter (<https://www.optometry.org/verification>) should be viewed to confirm eligibility but is not required for admittance. **The AUGUST 2011 Verification Forms are not yet posted. Please check back later this week.**

### IDENTIFICATION FORM REQUIRED

To be admitted to the test center, you must present an acceptable form of picture identification that includes **both a photograph and a signature**. The **only** acceptable forms of identification are:

- A valid driver's license or an official photo ID issued by the government of the state or province where you reside.
- A valid passport.
- A valid student identification card from an accredited school or college of optometry, provided this ID card includes both a photograph and signature embedded in the card.
- In order to be considered valid, the ID must match the name on the roster for the exam. If the name does not match, a Candidate may be denied access to the exam. To submit a name change, click here: <https://www.optometry.org/pdf/namechange.pdf>. Your online profile (<https://www.optometry.org/profile/>) will be updated once the NBEO records are updated.

ID Forms from membership organizations or clubs are not permissible for admission to any National Board test. *During the test, you will be required to place this identification card in front of you, on the desk, for periodic Proctor inspection.*

## ITEMS PERMITTED/NOT PERMITTED/UNAUTHORIZED

- **PERMITTED - Candidates may have ONLY the following items at their examination desk (items subject to inspection):**
  1. An acceptable and valid ID (see previous page)
  2. #2 pencil (provided by the NBEO at the test center; no other writing instruments are authorized)
  3. Calculator (provided by the NBEO at the test center; no other calculators are authorized)
  4. Erasers
  5. A jacket or sweater (if not wearing, hang on back of chair)
  6. Non-mechanical, non-electronic ear plugs (with prior Proctor inspection/approval)
  7. An approved bottle of water with label removed (see below)
- **NOT PERMITTED – Examples of items not permitted on examination desks include, but are not limited to:**
  1. Books or notes
  2. Electronic and mechanical devices, such as watches with computer communication or memory capability, radios, recording or filming devices, calculator other than those provided by the NBEO, and electronic earplugs
  3. Rulers, compasses, slide rulers and protractors
  4. Pencils other than those provided by the NBEO, highlighters, pens, or other writing instruments
  5. Brimmed hats or caps, including baseball caps
  6. Purses (Proctors must accompany Candidates who wish to retrieve an item from a stored purse)
  7. Food and/or drink (except water bottles, see below). Food and drink may be kept in personal bags or purses and accessed during authorized break
  8. Tobacco products
  9. “Good-luck” pieces, including photographs
  10. Exam Verification letters (should be kept with personal belongings)
- **UNAUTHORIZED – Examples of items not to bring to the testing site include, but are not limited to:**
  1. Communication devices, **INCLUDING CELL PHONES** (e.g., pagers)
  2. Personal digital assistants [PDAs] (e.g., Palm Pilot, Pocket PC)

**Possession of unauthorized items during an exam is a violation of NBEO policy.**

**Cell Phones. Candidates should not have cell phones in the examination rooms. No phone should be left with personal belongings in the designated areas. Non-compliance with any aspect of this policy is an irregularity, which will be reported to the Board, and may be subject to the consequences associated with cheating.**

After being admitted to an examination room, using a mobile phone, and/or any electronic device, which can be used for recording, communicating, or transmitting any test material, shall be the basis of Board actions including, withholding scores and other legal actions. Any used communication device (i.e., phone ringing on the Candidate) may be confiscated and sent to the National Board. Candidates determined to have used such devices during an examination may be prohibited from taking future National Board examination.

**Water Bottles.** The bottle must be clear and contain clear liquid. The top should be the secure, nipple-type to prevent spills, as pictured. The recommended size is 16 oz, or 500 ml. Water bottles are subject to Proctor inspection. **NEW: ALL LABELS ON THE WATER BOTTLE MUST BE REMOVED PRIOR TO YOUR ARRIVAL TO THE SITE TO AVOID ANY DELAY TO YOUR START TIME.**



*Example of the top of a permitted water bottle*

**Calculators. Only NBEO-provided calculators are authorized for the Part I ABS.** Click here for more information on the NBEO Calculator Policy <http://www.optometry.org/calculators.cfm>. Calculators will be provided at the site.

## CHIEF PROCTOR

At each test center, the Chief Proctor, together with assisting Proctors, acts with the authority of the National Board. The National Board has established uniform standards for examination administration, and it is the Candidate's responsibility to carefully follow

the instructions given by the Chief Proctor while in the test room. Proctors can only answer questions about the mechanics of taking the test, not about subject matter.

## WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE EXAMINATION

Upon arrival, ensure you have your valid and acceptable ID (see page 1) and check-in immediately to prevent a last-minute rush at the registration tables. The Chief Proctor will begin reading instructions approximately 15 minutes prior to the start of the exam. If you are unable to hear the Chief Proctor, immediately notify a Proctor. Once instructions begin, Proctors will distribute booklets. Please read the instructions on the front cover. You will be directed to check the booklet for missing pages; please notify a Proctor immediately if you find a defective booklet. When completing information on your answer sheet, you will be required to include your **OE TRACKER #**. Once the Chief Proctor has completed the instructions, you will be directed to break the seal and begin the exam.

You can review exam content information for Part I ([http://www.optometry.org/part\\_abs.cfm](http://www.optometry.org/part_abs.cfm)) on our website.

## TEST BOOKLETS and CONFIDENTIALITY OF EXAMINATIONS

The examinations are confidential, and consequently, test booklets **cannot** leave the examination room. Each test is printed in a separate booklet, which will be sealed and have a four-digit identification number. You will be required to indicate the identification number on the answer sheet. The seals must not be broken until the Chief Proctor instructs you to do so.

Adequate space will be provided in the test booklets for calculations and/or writing notes. Additional “scratch” paper is not allowed. Test items are not to be copied or notes taken.

The test booklet and answer sheet must be returned to the Chief Proctor after the exam. The National Board has developed procedures to check that every page of every booklet is returned. Infraction of this rule is considered disruptive behavior and subject to the conditions to which you agreed. **If a booklet, or part of a booklet, is not returned, that Candidate’s scores will not be reported.**

## RESTROOM BREAKS

Candidates are allowed restroom breaks during the examination although no additional testing time is allotted. Chief Proctors will provide additional instructions regarding procedures at the examination site. Examination Proctors have been instructed to strictly adhere to National Board policies which include escorting Candidates into restrooms.

## IRREGULARITIES

Collaboration, pirating, copying, talking (even to oneself), and other disruptive behavior during an examination is strictly prohibited and subject to disciplinary actions.

**Any Candidate found guilty of cheating on any National Board examination will receive a score of zero (0F\*) on the examination Part(s) in which the cheating occurred, or otherwise have their score(s) canceled. Further, the Candidate may be prohibited from taking future National Board examinations.**

In the event of an emergency (e.g., fire, electrical blackout, weather), Candidates are required to follow Proctor directions. Not following such directions will be considered disruptive behavior.

## TWO FORMS OF ANSWER SHEETS

Part I ABS has two one-sided answer sheets, Forms A and B. The two answer sheets differ in their layout, and are designed to inhibit copying answers. The answer sheet will be machine scored, and it is to your advantage to precisely follow the instructions given by the Chief Proctor.

Be sure that your recorded responses correspond to the appropriate test items.

Your score depends on the answers recorded on the answer sheet and is based on the total number of correct answers you choose.

- The vast majority of the items (approximately 85-90%) are traditional multiple choice items, which consist of a stem (a question or an incomplete statement) followed by three to five options, one of which is the correct or best response.

- Approximately 10-15% of the items are multiple response (MR) items, which consist of a stem followed by four to seven options. An MR item will have two to five correct options and the candidate is required to select ALL of the appropriate options in order to get the item correct. The stem of the MR item indicates how many of the options are required. For example, if there are three correct options, the phrase (SELECT 3) will appear in the stem.

Since there is no penalty for choosing an incorrect response, it is to your advantage to answer all questions. The NBEO website provides additional Testing Strategy tips (<http://www.optometry.org/strategies.cfm>).

### **TEST CRITIQUE FORM**

The critique form is on the reverse side of the answer sheet. The National Board has developed this critique form to encourage your overall evaluation of individual tests and reactions to specific test items while you can still refer to the test. Your comments will be returned to the National Board office and sent to the members of the appropriate Examination Development Council for review.

It is important to include the item number and substantiate item comments. For example, if you say that “both a and b are correct,” explain why you feel this is so. The “why” portion of the critique is the substantiation that will flag the item for re-review by the Examination Development Council, in conjunction with the item analysis statistics. Your comments regarding the test administration (i.e., facility conditions, Proctors, etc.) are also welcome.

The test critique must be completed during the allotted testing time. The National Board hopes and expects that your involvement in “evaluating the evaluators” will provide a useful perspective in the identification of potentially poor test items and in the maintenance of examinations with a superior level of quality.

Please note you will not receive further communication regarding a critique unless it is determined that additional testing may be required as a result of the circumstances presented.

### **SCORES**

Once scores are released and able to be viewed online (<https://www.optometry.org/scores/>), we will immediately post an announcement on our homepage (<http://www.optometry.org/>) under “News and Notes”; scores are not available until this announcement is made. Scores will be available for Candidates to view no later than **September 21, 2011**.

### **COLLEGE LIAISONS**

All questions regarding policies and practices of the National Board are to be directed to the College Liaison Administrator on your campus. Their names can be found on the NBEO web site (<http://www.optometry.org/liaisons.cfm>). If this person is unable to answer your questions, (s)he will contact the National Board office for clarification.

### **THE 2011 NATIONAL BOARD EXAMINATIONS**

The 2011 National Board examinations are the culmination of many hours of work by hundreds of people, including: faculty, state board members, and private practitioners who originally submitted items; Examination Development Committee members; National Board staff; and the Board of Directors. Every attempt has been made to present a relevant and valid examination based on the Content Matrix and Content Outline as published on the NBEO web site (<http://www.optometry.org/>).

Pass/fail standards on National Board examinations are set by criterion-referenced procedures. Consequently, you will be assessed on the knowledge base that you have developed, rather than on your performance compared to the other people taking the examinations at the same time.

**Everyone involved in the preparation of these examinations extends their collective best wishes for your success.**

## WRITTEN TEST CENTERS FOR AUGUST 2-3, 2011 PART I ABS EXAMINATION

(Test centers are not necessarily the same test center every administration, always check the Instructions to Candidates)

The locations and telephone numbers of the test centers and the names and telephone numbers of the Chief Proctors are listed below. Consult our Web site, [www.optometry.org](http://www.optometry.org), and choose "Test Day" then "Test Center Locations" (<http://www.optometry.org/maps.cfm>) for more specific directions to sites. **Parking fees may change and may not be listed below, please be prepared to possibly pay for parking.**

TEST CENTERS/SITE ADDRESS	EXAM ROOM/ CHIEF PROCTOR	TEST CENTER/SITE ADDRESS	EXAM ROOM/ CHIEF PROCTOR
<b>101 BERKELEY, CA</b> Scottish Rite Center 1547 Lakeside Drive Oakland, CA 94612 (510) 832-0819	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Ballroom  Chief Proctor: Helen Webb, (510) 303-2340	<b>102 BIG RAPIDS, MI</b> Holiday Inn 1005 Perry Ave Big Rapids, MI 49307 (231) 796-4400	Board Room  Chief Proctor: Amy Otteson, (231) 591-3628
<b>103 BIRMINGHAM, AL</b> University of Alabama at Birmingham Volker Hall 1670 University Boulevard Birmingham, Alabama 35294	Lecture Room C  Chief Proctor: Cathy Shelton Kimbrel (205) 934-3704 or 934-8179	<b>104 BLOOMINGTON, IN</b>  Indiana University Kelley School of Business Godfrey Graduate and Executive Education Center 1275 East 10th Street at Fee Lane Bloomington, IN 47405-1703 Pay and permit parking at 11th and Fee Lane Garage  Additional parking information available at: <a href="http://www.parking.indiana.edu/parking_operations/locations.aspx">http://www.parking.indiana.edu/parking_operations/locations.aspx</a>	Rm 1032  Chief Proctor: John Bean (812) 855-1595; test day (812) 340-3952
<b>105 BOSTON, MA</b> John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center 900 Boylston Street Boston, MA 02115 (617) 954-2000  "T" Stops: Either "Hynes Conv. Ctr" or "Prudential"	311  Chief Proctor: Peggy McDonald (781) 891-8640	<b>106 CHICAGO, IL</b> Illinois College of Optometry 3241 South Michigan Ave Chicago, IL 60616 (312) 225-1700  Non-students: enter school at Indiana Ave entrance, and report to security desk. Guard will direct you to room.	Gym  Chief Proctor: Dorian Thomas, (773) 727-5708
<b>107 COLUMBUS, OH</b> The Ohio State University Student Academic Services Building 281 West Lane Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43210  Parking is available in the attached parking garage \$10	Rm 285  Chief Proctor: Lawrence Jones, c/o Brian Endicott, (614) 247-6178	<b>108 FOREST GROVE, OR</b> Trinity Lutheran Church 2194 S.E. Minter Bridge Road Hillsboro, OR 97123 (503) 640-1693	Celebration Center  Chief Proctor: Karen Walker, (503) 476- 4158

TEST CENTERS/SITE ADDRESS	EXAM ROOM/ CHIEF PROCTOR	TEST CENTER/SITE ADDRESS	EXAM ROOM/ CHIEF PROCTOR
<b>109 FULLERTON, CA</b> Embassy Suites Brea - North Orange County 900 East Birch Street, Brea, California, United States 92821 (714) 990-6000	Nile Ball Room  Chief Proctor: Terri De Loa, (562) 925-8201	<b>110 HOUSTON, TX</b> University of Houston University Testing Service Student Service Center 1, Room 212 Houston, TX 77004 (713) 743-5447/(713) 743-5434  Visitor's parking \$3.00, stop at information booth for parking directions.	All written exams: Registration desk at Room 212  Chief Proctor: Bernadine Garrett, (713) 743-5447
<b>111 MEMPHIS, TN</b> Southern College of Optometry 1245 Madison Memphis, TN 38104 (901) 722-3224	Annex (Annex is behind the eye clinic; turn into the drive between the clinic and the tower)  Chief Proctor: Brenda Townsend, (901) 489-1836; (901) 366-9627	<b>112 NEW YORK, NY</b> Diocese of the Armenian Church 630 Second Ave/New York, NY 10016 (212) 252-1171  Entrance at the corner of 35 <sup>th</sup> St and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ave, <b>under canopy</b> . Subway line #6 to 33 <sup>rd</sup> St stop. Bus: M16 and M32.	G Hall  Chief Proctor: Kamla Mangar, (212) 367-4246
<b>113 FT. LAUDERDALE, FL</b> Broward County Convention Center 1950 Eisenhower Blvd. Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316	Rm 304  Chief Proctor: Jeanne Smith, (305) 233-7447; test day (305) 608-9757	<b>114 PHILADELPHIA, PA</b> Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University 50 Breyer Drive Elkins Park, PA 63121	Hafter Center  Chief Proctor: Debra Young-Yassine, (610) 526-6116
<b>115 SAN JUAN, PR</b> Colegio De Farmaceuticos de Puerto Rico Esq Calle Antolin Nin and Cale Ingenero Colon URB Roosevelt Hato Rey, PR 00918 (787) 753-7157  Los Americas Expressway to Avenida Domenech. Left C. Antolin Nin. Left C. Ingenero Colon.	Salon de Actos (1 <sup>st</sup> floor)  Chief Proctor: Beatrice Tobin, (787) 763-3933; test day (787) 688-7253	<b>116 ST. LOUIS, MO</b> University of Missouri, St. Louis Millennium Student Center North Campus, on East Dr. St. Louis, MO 63121 (314) 516-6396  Shuttle link – UMSL Bus. Driving, take Rte 70 to UMSL exit.	Century Room  Chief Proctor: Helen McDonnell, (314) 516-6396
<b>117 TAHLEQUAH, OK</b> Northeastern State University Alumni Center SE corner of Cedar and Crafton Sts Tahlequah, OK 74464 (918) 456-5511, x4200  From Optometry School go south on Grand, turn east on Crafton.	Great Hall  Chief Proctor: Monica Barnett, (918) 458-2063	<b>118 WATERLOO, ONTARIO, CANADA</b> University of Waterloo School of Optometry 200 University Ave W Waterloo, Ontario, Canada N2L 3G1 (519) 885-4854  Metered parking available (\$3.00 Canadian coin).	OPT309  Chief Proctor: Barbara Moyle, (519) 588-4854