

physiological optics; theoretic optometry and optics; anatomy, physiology, and pathology, especially as they relate to the eye and to vision; general practice of optometry; special practice of optometry; practical optometric dispensing and such other subject matters as are taught in the schools and colleges of optometry and which the Commissioners deem necessary to determine the applicant's competence to practice as an optometrist. The Commissioners may accept the results of written examinations given by the National Board of Optometry, but shall conduct their own oral and practical examinations. The Commissioners are authorized and empowered to alter, amend, and otherwise change the educational standards at any time, but in altering, amending, or changing said standards, the Commissioners shall not be permitted to lower the same below the standards herein set forth; and

"(8) has paid all the required fees.

"SEC. 5. (a) The Commissioners are authorized to issue a reciprocity license to an individual who holds a license to practice optometry in another State. An applicant for a reciprocity license may, at the discretion of the Commissioners, be licensed without a written examination but he must be given and pass a practical and oral examination. A reciprocity license shall be granted only if—

"(1) the State in which the applicant's license has been granted accords like privileges to the holder of a license to practice optometry in the District of Columbia;

"(2) the license of the applicant shall not have been suspended or revoked by any State for any cause which is the basis for suspension or revocation of a license under this Act (other than for nonpayment of fees) unless such a license has been reinstated by such State and is in full force and effect at the time of the application for a reciprocity license under this section;

"(3) the applicant for a reciprocity license has not failed to pass an examination for a license under this Act in the District of Columbia after his admission to practice in another State.

"(b) If an individual holding a reciprocity license granted under this section fails to actually practice optometry in the District of Columbia within one year after such license has been granted, the Commissioners may revoke such license at any time before such individual actually begins the practice of optometry in the District of Columbia.

"SEC. 6. Every license issued in accordance with the provisions of this Act, subject to the provisions of section 7 of this Act, shall automatically be renewed annually upon application by the holder of the license and payment of the annual renewal fee. Such annual renewal fee shall be fixed by the Commissioners. If the holder of a license fails to renew his license in accordance with this section, such license shall be suspended and such individual shall not thereafter practice optometry in the District of Columbia until such license shall be reinstated or a new license issued to him under this Act. If such individual thereafter applies for reinstatement of his license, it shall automatically be reinstated upon payment of all intervening renewal and other fees. If such individual fails to have his license reinstated within five years after the date it is suspended under this section, he shall not thereafter be licensed to practice optometry in the District of Columbia until he shall have passed a practical examination given by the Commissioners and paid all intervening renewal and other fees.

"SEC. 7. (a) The Commissioners are authorized (A) to refuse to renew, or reinstate any license authorized by this Act, and (B) to suspend or revoke any license issued under authority of this Act, for any of the following causes—

"(1) the use of any title or any other word or abbreviation indicating that the licensee is engaged in the practice of medicine or surgery;

"(2) conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude;

"(3) willful violation or repeated violations of any provisions of this Act or any of the regulation promulgated by the Commissioners under this Act;

"(4) gross incompetence;

"(5) chronic or persistent inebriety, or the habitual use of narcotics;

"(6) affliction with a contagious or infectious disease which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, renders the practice of optometry by the licensee or applicant for a license, dangerous to the public health;

"(7) conduct which disqualifies the licensee from practicing optometry with safety to the public;

"(8) advertising directly or indirectly the performance of optometric service or any part thereof, including the furnishing of ophthalmic or optical