

Optometrists

Applications under Directive 2005/36/EC, Recognition of Professional Qualifications

1. General Information

Bord na Radharcmhastóirí–The Opticians Board

The Opticians Board is the regulatory body established under the Opticians Acts, 1956 and 2003. It maintains registers of optometrists and dispensing opticians who may practise in Ireland. It is illegal for any person, other than a registered optometrist (or a registered medical practitioner) to practise as an optometrist in the state.

Under the Opticians Acts

Only registered optometrists (or registered medical practitioners) are entitled to prescribe spectacles (as defined).

Only registered optometrists or registered dispensing opticians (or registered medical practitioners) are entitled to dispense or sell spectacles (as defined).

Registered optometrists may provide orthoptic treatment on the written direction of a registered medical practitioner.

Registered optometrists are obliged, where in the course of an eye examination, the presence of a disease or condition of the eye is suspected, to inform the patient of this and recommend that the patient consult a registered medical practitioner.

Under the Medicinal Products (Prescription and Control of Supply) Regulations

Registered optometrists have access to cyclopentolate hydrochloride, oxybuprocaine hydrochloride, tropicamide and fluorescein sodium for *administration* to patients in the course of professional practice.

II. This page is being updated. In the meantime, please contact the Administrator for an application form and further information.

Completed application forms, supporting documentation and applicable fees should be returned to the Board's office.