

New Graduates:

If you have recently graduated from a [recognized school of optometry](#) and wish to apply for registration to practice optometry in Nova Scotia, you must complete the application process summarized below.

Step 1

Begin your NSCO Application

For your application, please provide/complete the following:

- Application Form
- Recent passport photo - notarized
- Proof of Canadian citizenship
 - notarized copy birth certificate or citizenship papers
- If applicable, permanent resident status under Immigration Act (Canada)
 - notarized copy of certificate showing permanent residence status
- If applicable, authorization under the Immigration Act (Canada) to engage in practice of optometry – notarized copy of authorization
- Certified copies of all Academic transcripts in support of all degrees & qualifications
 - ***have institutions send directly to NSCO. You may upload ecopies of marks in support of your application but institutional copies are required for licensure.***
 - ***with respect to degree obtained date, if you have not yet received your degree, declare your expected degree and date of graduation.***
- Successful completion of both parts of the OEBC.
- Payment of application/jurisprudence exam fees

The application must be complete in all respects before it will be considered. Upon request, the NSCO will provide an applicant access to the records held that are related to an applicant's application. Please consult our [policy](#) concerning this process.

Alternative Information to the required documents – The NSCO recognizes that there may be circumstances where and applicant may not be able to provide certain required documents. Please consult our policy concerning [accepting alternative information](#) to required documentation.

The NSCO will make reasonable efforts to accommodate applicants with special needs. Click [here](#) for more information.

You will be notified via email, that your application has been sent to the Registrar for review/approval.

Step 2

Once all documents have been received, all fees paid and the completed application reviewed and approved by the NSCO Registrar, you will then be permitted to write the jurisprudence exam. The applicant will be notified via email that their application is approved and the exam study materials will be sent to them via email.

The Jurisprudence exam consists of 40 multiple choice questions and is an open book format. Once the applicant is ready to challenge the exam, it will be sent to them via email, and he/she/they will have 10 days to complete it. The applicant will be notified via email of their results typically within 2-4 business days. The pass mark for this exam is 80.

Step 3

Upon successful completion of the jurisprudence exam, the applicant will complete the licensing application and pay the applicable fees. Please note, the licensing fees for new graduates are pro-rated on a monthly basis. When the licensing application has been completed and all fees paid, a license to practice optometry in the province of Nova Scotia will be issued to the applicant.

Review Policy:

If an applicant is dissatisfied with a decision concerning their application, he/she/they may request a review of the original assessment to the NSCO Regulation committee within 30 days. For further information, please consult our [policy](#) concerning this matter in its entirety.