



2024 Changes and Announcements

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The National Board of Examiners in Optometry® (NBEO®) expresses sincere appreciation to all who assisted in advancing the assessment of optometric competency in 2023. We are committed to public protection through the development, administration, scoring, and reporting of examinations that reflect contemporary optometry. As we begin 2024, please review the following key updates and organizational announcements.

Departing Board Members

At the end of 2023, Dr. Lewis Reich and Mr. John Sicotte completed their second terms as members of the NBEO board of directors and rotated off the board. We are very appreciative of their time and dedication to the mission of NBEO over the last eight years.



Dr. Lewis Reich



Mr. John Sicotte

New Board Members

NBEO is pleased to welcome two new members to its board of directors with four-year terms that began on January 1, 2024: Dr. Daniel Taylor and Ms. Erica Brown. Dr. Taylor is the Dean of the Michigan College of Optometry Ferris State University. Ms. Brown currently serves as the Director of Certification at ASIS International.



Dr. Daniel Taylor



Ms. Erica Brown

New Exam Registration System Launched

NBEO launched a new exam registration system earlier this month that is designed to enhance the candidate experience with an updated, friendlier user interface. The new system also has increased performance capabilities, including the ability to serve more concurrent users during peak registration periods.

Please review the Registration User Guide [here](#) if you have not already done so. You can access the new registration system under the Registration tab on the [NBEO website](#).

New Part III PEPS Examination Coming August 2024

In August of last year, we announced the new Part III Patient Encounters and Performance Skills (PEPS®) examination will launch in August 2024 and replace the current Part III CSE® (Clinical Skills Examination). The new Part III exam will evaluate essential skills and measure a candidate's ability to apply evidence-based knowledge to patient care. For more information regarding Part III PEPS please visit the [website](#).

In the months prior to exam launch, NBEO will continue pilot testing and finalizing the examination software. Registration for the Part III PEPS exam will open on **Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at 9:00 pm EST**. More information, including a computer software tutorial, will be posted to the NBEO website in the coming weeks.

Practicing optometrists interested in submitting cases for the Part III PEPS examination, may apply for authorship on the [subject matter expert webpage](#).

LSPE® Registration Opens in March

Registration for the Laser and Surgical Procedures Examination (LSPE®) will open for the upcoming administrative year on March 26, 2024. Registration is open to 4th-year optometric students,

optometric residents, and optometric practitioners. The number of candidates taking LSPE continues to grow.

LSPE is the only nationally standardized examination, measuring competency in optometric laser and surgical skills, decision-making, and patient management. Candidates may register to take LSPE in its entirety or have the option to take the laser or surgical sections separately as needed. For more information, visit the [LSPE webpage](#).

Part I ABS® Practice Items Databank and Part II PAM®/TMOD® Practice Items Databank Available*

Last year, NBEO launched two new subscription-based, online tools to help candidates prepare for the Part I Applied Basic Science (ABS®) and Part II Patient Assessment & Management / Treatment and Management of Ocular Disease (PAM®/TMOD®) examinations.

Candidates may subscribe to the Practice Items Databank(s) after registering for the respective examination(s). We continue to add additional content to the practice databanks. Click on the following links for more information about each tool: [Part I ABS Practice Items Databank](#) or [Part II PAM/TMOD Practice Items Databank](#).

Fees for Examinations Administered Beginning in August 2024

During its annual, comprehensive financial review, NBEO leadership determined that a slight increase in examination fees will occur for examinations administered beginning in August. NBEO leadership understands that exam fees can be a challenge for many candidates. Therefore, any potential increase in fees is discussed at length after a thorough analysis of costs incurred over the past year and those projected for the year ahead. Fee increases are only determined as needed to offset expenses and maintain high-quality examinations that meet the needs of the regulatory boards. The new fees can be found on our [website](#).

As always, we appreciate your ongoing support, and look forward to working with you in 2024. Questions may be sent to nbeo@optometry.org.

*NOTE: SUBSCRIPTION TO AND/OR COMPLETION OF THE PART I ABS PRACTICE ITEMS DATABANK OR PART II PAM/TMOD PRACTICE ITEMS DATABANK DOES NOT GUARANTEE A PASSING SCORE ON ANY NBEO EXAMINATION.

About NBEO — *Established in 1951, NBEO is an independent, non-governmental, non-profit organization whose examinations are universally accepted for optometric licensure in the United States and accepted internationally. NBEO's mission is to protect the public by developing, administering, scoring, and reporting results of valid examinations that assess competency in optometry.*