



**NMRLD**

**NEW MEXICO  
REGULATION &  
LICENSING DEPARTMENT**

**FROM:** New Mexico Board of Optometry  
**TO:** Applicants for Licensure  
**DATE:** February 19, 2026  
**RE:** **2026 Application/Licensure Procedure Examination Schedule and Deadlines**

Welcome from the New Mexico Board of Optometry! Clinical practicum experiences are a significant and exciting part of the optometric professional’s educational journey. The following information will serve as a guide for you. There are multiple clinical practicum examination requirements that must be completed prior to sitting for the examination. Failure to meet these requirements will result in them not being able to sit for the examination.

Below is a hyperlink to the Board’s rules and statutes, which contain all the information you will need to complete your application for examination and licensure. <https://www.srca.nm.gov/nmac-home/nmac-titles/title-16-occupational-and-professional-licensing/>

Please ensure you see the Document Checklist to assist you in keeping track of the information you have uploaded into your NMPLUS Licensing Account. The 2026 Board Examination is scheduled for **Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup>**. Please be aware that due to the potential volume of examination candidates, some applicants may be required to take the examination on **Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup>**. We will confirm the final exam schedule and your specific assignment date once the total number of candidates is finalized after the registration period closes.

**Documentation Deadlines**

	Due Date
Letter of Intent, Application, Application Fee of <b>\$175.00</b> , and Examination Fee of <b>\$400.00</b>	<b>May 14, 2026</b>
Remaining Documentation	<b>June 8, 2026</b>

**NOTE:** The New Mexico Regulations & Licensing Department maintains a strictly nonrefundable fee policy. Applicants are required to agree to this condition prior to application submission.

**Prerequisite Examination Requirement**

Please review the Board Rules, specifically Parts 3, 5, and 7 prior to the date of the examination.

- **Optometric Practitioners – Part 3 Requirements for Licensure by Examination**  
<https://prod-rf-lambda.rtssaas.com/PublicFiles/d89c47bd0d70402dba89b03a22bda6d1/be14785d-9302-4eac-b82f-fbf7acd13b83/16.016.0003.html>
- **Optometric Practitioners – Part 5 Examination for Optometric Licensure**  
<https://prod-rf-lambda.rtssaas.com/PublicFiles/d89c47bd0d70402dba89b03a22bda6d1/31c021c2-361e-4054-aa9f-a29d2136edcc/16.016.0005.html>
- **Optometric Practitioners – Part 7 Pharmaceutical Certification**  
<https://prod-rf-lambda.rtssaas.com/PublicFiles/d89c47bd0d70402dba89b03a22bda6d1/31aad93f-c635-4de3-bd0d-b60350f0527c/16.016.0007.html>

**Schedule Notification**

All approved applicants will be scheduled for the examination and sent a letter notifying them of approval to sit for the Examination for Optometric Licensure.



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### Jurisprudence Examination Preparation

The examination will be based on the rules and statutes located at: <https://www.srca.nm.gov/nmac-home/nmac-titles/title-16-occupational-and-professional-licensing/>

### Examination Results and Licensure

All approved examination candidates will be notified by email of his or her final individual scores and pass/fail status. Successfully passing the Board exam, meeting all requirements, and paying fees within ninety (90) days of notification completes the requirements for New Mexico optometry licensure.

Due Date	Application and Communication Deadlines
2026/05/15	Letter of Intent, Application, Application Fee of <b>\$175.00</b> , and Examination Fee of <b>\$400.00</b> due.
2026/05/22	Application status notice sent to Applicant.
2026/06/08	Required documentation deadline to complete application.
2026/06/18	Exam notice and Clinical skills exam entrance care sent to confirmed licensing Applicant.
2026/07/18	Clinical/Practicum Skills Examination for Optometry Licensure
2026/07/28	Notice of pass/fail score results sent to Applicant.*

\*Passed candidates will be required to submit a licensure fee of **\$200.00** within 90 days.

### Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations

We strive for full accessibility. Our venue is ADA-compliant, and the following reasonable accommodation is available to support all examinees:

- Extended examination time.
- Auxiliary Aids & Services.
- Physical accommodations.
- Additional “breaks” during the examination.

Please inform us of any accommodation needs you may have by **June 8, 2026**, so we can make the necessary arrangements. You can respond to this email at [Optometry.Bd@rld.nm.gov](mailto:Optometry.Bd@rld.nm.gov) or contact us at 505.476.4622.

We look forward to your participation!