



February 2014

Indiana Optometry Board

Indiana Professional Licensing Agency
402 W. Washington Street, Room W072
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
(317) 234-2054
www.pla.in.gov



**Indiana
Professional
Licensing
Agency**

Continuing Education Changes for April 2014 Renewals

Reminder:

***Current Optometry
licenses and
Optometric Legend
Drug certifications
expire April 1, 2014***

[Renew Now!](#)

A new standard applies for the April 1, 2014 renewal cycle for continuing education hours. Optometrists licensed in the state of Indiana now need to have twenty (20) hours of continuing education for their optometry license and twenty (20) hours of continuing education for their optometric legend drug certificate by the April 1, 2014 renewal. However, only a maximum of eight (8) of those hours can be self-study continuing education.

In addition, two (2) of the continuing education hours must be in any of the following areas:

1. Medical charting
2. Billing and coding
3. Healthcare compliance
4. Compliance with federal or Indiana laws or regulations

Courses which are approved by the board or the Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE) in the area of jurisprudence and medical recordkeeping will be accepted and are **not** considered practice management courses.

Continuing education requirements can be found on the board's website by visiting <http://www.in.gov/pla/2522.htm>.

If you have any questions, please contact the Indiana Optometry Board by email at pla8@pla.in.gov.



Message from the PLA Director - Nicholas W. Rhoad

All of us at the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency appreciate your professionalism and your commitment to make Indiana a state that works. *Chief Executive* magazine recently ranked Indiana as the fifth best state for business in America and first in the Midwest. *Site Selection* magazine ranked Indiana second in its list of Top 10 Competitive States.

We are focused on removing unnecessary barriers to practice and doing all that we can to support businesses in

the Hoosier state. I hope you will join me and the PLA staff in helping Governor Mike Pence cut red tape to infuse energy into our business climate. Every dollar not spent on paperwork and bureaucracy is another dollar that can be spent putting Hoosiers to work. I look forward to



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2014
Optometry Board
Members

**Douglas C. Morrow, O.D.,
President**

**Natalie Olinger-Stine,
O.D., Secretary**

Stephan Van Cleve, O.D.

James Hunter, O.D.

Carl Golightly, O.D.

License Options if No Longer Practicing in Indiana

Optometrists who no longer practice in Indiana have three (3) options for license status:

Let it expire – If an Optometrist does not foresee practicing in the state of Indiana, they can choose to let the license expire. If the individual wishes to make the license active up to 18 months after expiration, they can renew the license at www.pla.in.gov. If they choose to make the license active after 18 months, the Optometrist will need to contact the Indiana Optometry Board (Board) to request a renewal form and renewal information.

Make it Inactive – If the licensee chooses to go inactive, the activation process can be more forgiving than if the license is allowed to expire. To go inactive, the licensee should request a renewal from the Board, complete and sign it, answer yes next to the question concerning the inactive status, and mail it back for processing. The fee to make the license inactive is \$84.00. Once the license is inactive, the licensee must renew the inactive status every 2 years.

To activate the license in the future, the licensee will need to contact the Board to request a renewal form and activation information

Keep it Active – If the Optometrist meets the requirements for renewal, they may keep their license active as long as they wish. The statutes and rules do not declare that the individual must practice in Indiana to have an active Optometrist license.

Next
Board Meeting

May 14, 2014
10:00 am

**Indiana Government Center South
Conference Room 1**

The public is welcome to attend.
Agendas are posted 7 days before
the meeting on the [web site](#).

Continuing Education Certificates

When obtaining continuing education certificates, please verify the certificate has all necessary information. Certificates must have the participant's name and license number, the name of the approved sponsor, the name of the course, the number of hours completed, the date the course was completed, and the location of the program. If any of this information is missing, it is the responsibility of the attendee to contact the sponsor of the program and obtain a corrected certificate that includes the necessary information.

If the participant information is blank when the certificate is issued, please enter your information to ensure it is complete. If a licensee is chosen for the continuing education audit, the continuing education certificate with missing information can be denied.



“We’re striving to cut red tape to make Indiana a state that works! Have ideas? Please give us your suggestions at www.in.gov/cutredtape.”

Nicholas W. Rhoad

PLA Executive Director

Message from the PLA Director, *continued from page 1*

visiting future board meetings to ask how the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency can help take Indiana from good to great.

Are there burdensome regulations or costly requirements that aren't nec-

essary for the public good? Do you struggle to meet requirements that end up smothering the growth of your business?

We welcome your suggestions at www.in.gov/cutredtape.

I look forward to hearing from you. Thank you for making Indiana an even better place to live and work!

Hardcopy of License, Permit, or Registration

We receive many inquiries from professionals asking when to expect new license cards or wall certificates in the mail. IPLA no longer sends these when a license, permit or registration is issued or renewed. Instead, you can now visit www.pla.in.gov and print one for yourself or order a hard copy of the 5"x7" wall certificate with your license card attached, printed on blue marbled cardstock, for a fee of \$13.77.

For detailed instructions to navigate this process, you can go to the IPLA home page www.pla.in.gov and click on "Order or Print a License" on the top right list of Online Services. If you would like to have the large, decorative certificate, please visit www.officialframes.com to place your order.

Is your license active?

If you renewed your license and have not double checked the status online, are you certain your license is active? When in doubt, you can go to www.pla.in.gov and click on "Search and Verify License". This will allow you to search by your license number to ensure your license is active. Licenses can be renewed online for up to 18 months after the license expires. If your license is expired over 18 months and you wish to make it active, you will need to contact the Indiana Optometry Board for a renewal form and instructions.

If you have an Optometric Legend Drug certificate, the search and verify function will also allow you to verify your correct practice location. If the practice location is no longer correct, please contact the Board to update the address. If the certificate is expired, you will need to contact the Board for further instruction.

Stay Connected with the Optometry Board

Please alert us when your contact information changes. Updating your address, phone number, and email address is easy at www.pla.in.gov or <https://mylicense.in.gov/egov/>. Your login ID is your entire license number including the "A" and the password is the last 4 digits of your social security number. To make a name change, please send a copy of your marriage license, divorce decree, or an updated social security card to us with your request by email at pla8@pla.in.gov or by mail to:

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Attn: Indiana Optometry Board
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Indiana Optometry Board Staff

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Representative

Keri Ann Reed, Customer Service Representative
Andrea Wade, Customer Service Representative

License Litigation:
 Disciplinary Actions
 Involving PLA Licensed
 Professionals >>>



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Andrea Denise Wills, O.D. 9/6/2013, License placed on indefinite probation. 12/11/2013, License suspended indefinitely.