



European
Council of
Optometry
and Optics

ECOO European Diploma in Optometry and Optics

ECOO European Diploma in Optics

A Status Report

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ECOO President-elect

ECOO

- The European Council of Optometry and Optics (ECOO) is the European organisation which represents the interests of optometrists and opticians from 25 countries. It aims to promote eye health to the public across borders and to harmonise clinical and optical practice
- Secretariat Brussels
 - Rue de Loi 227, bte .
 - 1040 Brüssel
- Mitglied im WCO
 - Secretariat
 - London →



European
Council of
Optometry
and Optics

St Louis, Missouri

ECOO – Vision and Mission

VISION

To improve vision and eye health by providing high-quality, cost-effective optometric and optical services across Europe.

Mission

- To improve eye health and vision for all and eliminate avoidable blindness and visual impairment in Europe
- To create a harmonised professional and educational system for optometry and optics based on the European Diploma in Optometry and Optics
- To develop the scope of practice for optometrists and opticians to the degree that the same high standards apply and are mutually recognised in all European Countries

WCO Vision and Mission

Vision

Our Vision is of a world where optometry makes high quality eye health and vision care accessible to all people

Mission

In order to achieve our vision, our mission is to facilitate the development of optometry around the world and support optometrists in promoting eye health and vision care as a human right through advocacy, education, policy development and humanitarian outreach

Europe: Legal Scope of Practice

The legal Scope of Practice within Countries of ECOO varies from assembling spectacles to the autonomous management of eye disease.

In the Spirit of the Bologna declaration ECOO established the European Diploma in Optometry as a stimulus to the harmonization of European optometric Education and clinical practice.

The Diploma is set at the Bachelor level in the European Higher Education

The countries of ECOO have adopted the Diploma as “Gold Standard” for European optometry

Optometrische Stufensystem

Box 1

Greece
Turkey

Box 2

Belgium
Czech Rep
France
Iceland
Italy

Box 3

Austria
Denmark
Finland
Germany
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland

Box 4

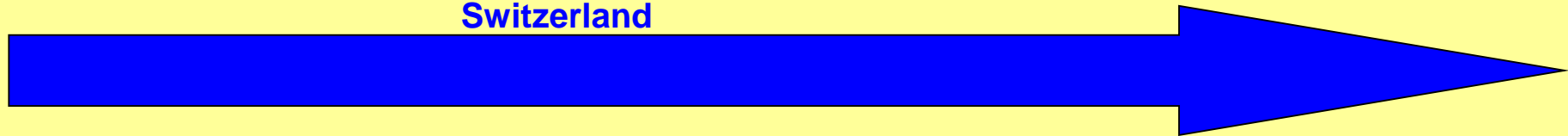
(Andorra)
Ireland
Netherlands
Norway

Box 5

Australia
Canada
New Zealand
UK
US

Box 6

US
(1 state)



OPTICIAN

REFRACTING
OPTICIAN

OPTOMETRIST

OPTOMETRIST

OPTOMETRIST
DOCTOR OF
OPTOMETRY
(OPTOMETRIC
PHYSICIAN)

OPTOMETRIC
PHYSICIAN

dispensing

dispensing
**refraction
prescription**

dispensing
refraction
prescription
**screening for
eye disease**

dispensing
refraction
prescription
**diagnosis of
eye disease
using DPA's
(diagnostics)**

dispensing
refraction
prescription
diagnosis of
eye disease
using DPA's
(diagnostics)
**treatment of
eye disease
using TPA's
(therapeutics)**

dispensing
refraction
prescription
diagnosis of
eye disease
using DPA's
(diagnostics)
treatment of
eye disease
using TPA's
(therapeutics)
**eye surgery
using laser**

ECOO - Diploma in Optometry and Optics

The Individual Examination:

This Examination in the current format will be phased out by 2019

Examination of Part C (Physiology, Pharmacology, Obnormal Occular Conditions) will carry on

Already registered students can complete their examinations in an appropriate time frame

Since 2003 in total 26 candidates received their diploma; the last were awarded at Brussels GA in October 2015

ECOO - Diploma in Optometry and Optics

The Individual Examination:

About 170 applicants are registered for the examination. Of these about 150 registered in 2015 for the individual examination before the dead line on 31th July 2015

Up to now there are still requests at an weekly interval to register for the examination at the ZVA offices in Düsseldorf

Written examination take place in France, practical examination in Germany (Part A + B) and the Netherlands (Part C)

Part C in Utrecht (Hogeschool) March 11th 2016

Part B in Cologne (HFAK) April 28th – 30th 2016

ECOO - Diploma in Optometry and Optics

The Accreditation scheme:

Benefits

It may help training institutions, in the course of their national academic accreditation, if they can demonstrate that all or part of their programme meets the European standard

National “competent authorities” will find it easier to evaluate the training of applicants from another EU country – this will help to facilitate free movement of professionals

How can institutions can get accredited?

www.ecoo.info/european-diploma/information-for-institutions/

ECOO - Diploma in Optometry and Optics

The Accreditation scheme:

Benefits


All European Optometry/Optics programmes can be compared against an agreed international standard, the ECOO European Diploma

It will form the basis of a system for exemptions from parts, or all, of the European Diploma examinations to graduates of accredited programmes

Training institutions will be encouraged to match their programmes to all or part of the competency –based European Diploma – this will help to harmonize Optometry within Europe

ECOO's Aim for Harmonisation of Optometry

- European Diploma in Optometry:
 - 'Gold-standard' level
 - Developing a harmonised Standard in Education and Scope of Practice in Europe
 - Steady increase in Diplomates



The
European Council of Optometry and Optics
Conseil Européen de l'Optométrie et de l'Optique
Europäischer Rat für Optometrie und Optik
derby awards the

ECOO European Diploma in Optometry

to _____

who having satisfied the examiners of the
European Council of Optometry and Optics
with their knowledge of

- Visual Perception and Optical Technology
- Management of Vision Problems
- General Health and Chaper Abnormality

is entitled to use the title
EurOptom

President of ECOO	_____	Chairman of Board of Examiners of Diploma	_____
Chairman of Board of Management of Diploma	_____	Secretary General of ECOO	_____
Date	_____	Seal	_____



ECOO - Diploma in Optometry and Optics

The Accreditation scheme:

Teaching institutions accredited:

Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz, Hochschule für Technik, Institut für Optometrie, Olten, Switzerland - fully accredited

Buskerud College Kongsberg, Norway - fully accredited

Palacky University, Olmouc, Czech Republic - partially accredited

Beuth University, Berlin, Germany - partially accredited

In the accreditation process:

Karolinska, Sweden

Mutual Evaluation of regulated Professions



The screenshot shows the European Commission's website for the Single Market Forum 2014. At the top, the European Commission logo is displayed next to the text "THE EU SINGLE MARKET". Below this, a navigation bar contains the breadcrumb: "European Commission > The EU Single Market > Single Market Forum > Single Market Forum 2014". On the left, a sidebar menu lists various topics: "Home", "Single Market Forum 2014", "Single Market for services", "Digital Single Market", "Professional qualifications", "Funding in the EU", "Public procurement", "Intellectual property rights", and "Single conference". The main content area is titled "Making the Single Market Work" and features a large graphic with the text "SINGLE MARKET FORUM 2014" and the European Commission logo. The graphic depicts a 3D grid of cubes with stylized human figures in various colors standing on them, set against a background of concentric circles.

THE EU SINGLE MARKET

European Commission

European Commission > The EU Single Market > Single Market Forum > Single Market Forum 2014

Home

Single Market Forum 2014

- Single Market for services
- Digital Single Market
- Professional qualifications
- Funding in the EU
- Public procurement
- Intellectual property rights
- Single conference

Making the Single Market Work

SINGLE MARKET FORUM 2014

European Commission

Mutual Evaluation – Transparenz Initiative



Mutual Evaluation Exercise - Transparenzinitiative

Composition of the 4 discussion groups

in the morning on "Electricians"
and in the afternoon on "Opticians"

1	2	3	4
Belgium	Estonia	France	Netherlands
Portugal	Ireland	Cyprus	Germany
Denmark	Romania	Latvia	Greece
Croatia	Italy	Bulgaria	Lithuania
Luxembourg	Hungary	Slovakia	Austria
Poland	Malta	Sweden	United Kingdom
Spain	Slovenia	Czech Republic	Finland
Switzerland	Liechtenstein	Iceland	Norway

European Qualifications in Optics

- Next steps?

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ECOO QUALIFICATION IN OPTICS DRAFT COMPETENCY FRAMEWORK

SUMMARY STATEMENT

One of the goals of the European Council of Optometry & Optics (ECOO) is to harmonise and develop educational standards and the scope of practice for optometry and optics. It is envisaged that this Qualification in Optics will have particular relevance to and be adopted by training institutions in countries where there is either a lower, or no, established standard for optics.

The European Diploma in Optometry has been an important tool in influencing the development of optometric education and raising the recognition, the level of competence and the scope of practice of optometry in Europe. There are three parts to the European Diploma in optometry. Part A is Optics and Optical Appliances, Part B is Clinical Investigation and Management and Part C is Biological and Medical Sciences and includes ocular disease and ocular pharmacology.

The World Council of Optometry also has developed a global competency-based model of the scope of practice for optometry to reflect the varying scope of practice across the world and which is based on the Parts of the European Diploma with the addition of level 4. Within this, they have defined four levels as follows;

- Level 1 Optical Technology services
- Level 2 Visual Function services, also encompassing Level 1
- Level 3 Ocular Diagnostic services, also encompassing Levels 1, and 2
- Level 4 Ocular Therapeutic services, also encompassing Levels 1, 2 and 3

The European Diploma in Optometry is set at level 3; the qualification in optics is set

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existing European ophthalmic dispensing competencies. The intention is that delivery of this competency framework will be assessed by the accreditation of training institutions or by examinations run by other bodies and accredited by ECOO. ECOO does not envisage running any examinations for this qualification. This competency framework should also be an important reference to any syllabus revision or development for national training institutions.

COMPETENCY FRAMEWORK FOR THE QUALIFICATION IN OPTICS

This competency framework focuses on the outcomes of what an individual trained to an appropriate level should be able to demonstrate to meet the agreed competencies of an optician.

The competency framework list comprises two main components aligned with Part A of the European Diploma:

1. Optical Appliances
2. Spectacle Assembly

The other competencies listed are also relevant to this qualification and provide basic knowledge, which is essential to meet the two main components above.

3. Methods of ocular examination
4. Refractive error
5. Contact Lenses
6. Ocular conditions and emergencies
7. Communication
8. Professional conduct

European Qualifications in Optics

COMPETENCY FRAMEWORK FOR THE QUALIFICATION IN OPTICS

This competency framework focuses on the outcomes of what an individual trained to an appropriate level should be able to demonstrate to meet the agreed competencies of an optician.

The competency framework list comprises two main components aligned with Part A of the European Diploma:

1. Optical Appliances
2. Spectacle Assembly

The other competencies listed are also relevant to this qualification and provide basic knowledge, which is essential to meet the two main components above.

3. Methods of ocular examination
4. Refractive error
5. Contact Lenses
6. Ocular conditions and emergencies
7. Communication
8. Professional conduct
9. Business Management

European Qualifications in Optics

Subject 1 Geometrical Optics: the demonstration of fundamental knowledge and insight into geometrical optics to be able to understand and solve problems related to the eye and optical instruments/lenses, their function and correction. The aim is to achieve knowledge of the fundamentals of geometrical optics and how they apply to the human eye.

Knowledge and understanding should be demonstrated in the areas of:

- (1) refraction at single spherical or plane surfaces,
- (2) thin lenses,
- (3) thick lenses,
- (4) aberrations,
- (5) apertures,
- (6) spherocylindrical lenses,
- (7) thin prisms,
- (8) mirrors, and
- (9) ophthalmic and optical instruments.

European Qualifications in Optics

Subject 2 Physical optics: the demonstration of fundamental knowledge and insight into physical optics to be able to understand and solve problems related to the eye and optical instruments/lenses, their function and correction. The aim is to achieve knowledge of the fundamentals of physical optics and how they apply to the human eye.

Knowledge and understanding should be demonstrated in the areas of:

- (1) wave optics,
- (2) interaction of light on matter,
- (3) polarization,
- (4) transmission through successive polarizers, and
- (5) image quality.

European Qualifications in Optics

Subject 3 Visual Optics: the demonstration of fundamental knowledge and insight into visual optics to be able to understand and solve problems related to image formation, both qualitative and quantitative, for the candidate to investigate the optics of the human visual system and refractive correction.

Knowledge and understanding should be demonstrated in the areas of:

- (1) schematic eye models,
- (2) dioptrics of the eye,
- (3) entopic phenomena,
- (4) quality of retinal image,

ECOO examples of stakeholder cooperation



European Council of Optometry and Optics



International Diabetes Federation Europe

European Forum Against Blindness



E F A B



European Guide Dog Federation

eurom1



EUROPEAN COALITION FOR VISION
Better Eye Health For Europe



European Council of Optometry and Optics