



Republic of Namibia
Annotated Statutes

REGULATIONS

REGULATIONS SURVIVING IN TERMS OF

Health Professions Act 16 of 2024
section 95(10)

**Regulations relating to the Minimum Requirements of Study
for Registration as an Optometrist**

Government Notice 173 of 2009

(GG 4332)

came into force on date of publication: 4 September 2009

These regulations were made in terms of section 55 of the Allied Health Professions Act 7 of 2004, which was repealed by the Health Professions Act 16 of 2024. Pursuant to section 95(10) of the Health Professions Act 16 of 2024, they are deemed to have been made under that Act.

The Government Notice which publishes these regulations notes that they were made on the recommendation of the Allied Health Professions Council of Namibia.

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

1. Definitions
 2. Minimum qualifications required for registration as an optometrist
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Definitions

1. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise indicates, a word or expression defined in the Act has the same meaning, and -

“the Act” means the Allied Health Professions Act, 2004 (Act No. 7 of 2004).

[The Allied Health Professions Act 7 of 2004 has been
replaced by the Health Professions Act 16 of 2024.]

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Minimum qualifications required for registration as an optometrist

2. (1) Subject to compliance with the other requirements prescribed by or under the Act, the following persons are entitled to registration as an optometrist under the Act:

(a) Any person who is the holder of the following qualifications -

Qualification	Abbreviation for registration	Educational Institution or Examining Authority and Country
Bachelor of Optometry	B Optom UJ/RAU	University of Johannesburg (formerly Rand Afrikaans University): Republic of South Africa
Bachelor of Optometry	B Optom KwaZulu- Natal/Durban-	University of KwaZulu- (formerly University of Westville Durban- Westville): Republic of South Africa
Bachelor of Optometry	B Optom Limpopo/	University of Limpopo (formerly University of the North): Republic of South Africa
Bachelor of Optometry	B Optom Free State/	University of the Free State (formerly University of the Orange Free State): Republic of South Africa
Diploma in Optometry	Dip Optom (SA)	South African Optometric Association Republic of South Africa;

(b) any person who is the holder of a four year bachelors degree in optometry awarded by an educational institution or examining or authority in -

- (i) the United States of America;
- (ii) Canada;
- (iii) Australia;
- (iv) New Zealand; or
- (v) The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,

and who is registered by the registration authority of the relevant country responsible for the registration of persons to practice as optometrists in that country;

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- (c) any person who is not the holder of a qualification prescribed by paragraph (a) or who is not a person contemplated in paragraph (b), but who is the holder of a degree or a diploma in optometry obtained at an educational institution after the full time study of optometry for a period of not less than four years at such educational institution, which study for such degree or such diploma must include the following subjects:
 - (i) Introduction to Optometry;
 - (ii) Optometry I, II and III;
 - (iii) Ocular Pathology I and II;
 - (iv) General Anatomy and Physiology (including Neuroanatomy and Neurophysiology) I and II;
 - (v) Dispensing Optometry I;
 - (vi) Ophthalmic Optics I;
 - (vii) Ocular Anatomy and Physiology I and II;
 - (viii) Ocular Pharmacology;
 - (ix) Contact Lenses I and II;
 - (x) Binocular Vision I and II;
 - (xi) Paediatric Optometry I and II;
 - (xii) Low Vision;
 - (xiii) Community and Environmental Optometry;
 - (xiv) Microbiology;
 - (xv) Mathematics I;
 - (xvi) Physics I;
 - (xvii) Chemistry I;
 - (xviii) Psychology I;
 - (xix) Optometry Ethics;
 - (xx) Practice Management;
 - (xxi) Clinical Practice:
 - (aa) General Clinics I and II (Minimum of 64 hours);
 - (bb) Contact Lens Clinics I and II (Minimum of 64 hours);

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- (cc) Binocular Vision Clinics I (Minimum 16 hours); and
- (dd) Low Vision Clinics (Minimum 16 hours).