



Republic of Namibia
Annotated Statutes

REGULATIONS

REGULATIONS SURVIVING IN TERMS OF

Health Professions Act 16 of 2024
section 95(10)

**Regulations relating to the Registration of Optometrists;
Qualifications that may be Registered as Additional
Qualifications; Maintaining of Register of Optometrists and
Restoration of a Name to a Register**

Government Notice 174 of 2009

(GG 4332)

came into force on date of publication: 4 September 2009

These regulations were made in terms of section 55 read with sections 26 and 32 of the Allied Health Professions Act 7 of 2004, which was repealed by the Health Professions Act 16 of 2024.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. It repeals the regulations published in RSA GN R.2313/1976 (RSA GG 5349). These previous regulations were made in terms of the RSA Medical, Dental and Supplementary Health Service Professions Act 56 of 1974. They survived in terms of section 50(2) of the Allied Health Services Professions Act 20 of 1993 and section 62(2) of its successor, the Allied Health Professions Act 7 of 2004.

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PART I
PRELIMINARY

Definitions

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

“additional qualification” means an additional qualification referred to in section 32(1)(a) of the Act, awarded by an educational institution and prescribed by regulation 4;

“certified” means certified as a true copy of the original by a commissioner of oaths appointed under section 5, or designated under section 6, of the Justice of peace and Commissioners of Oaths Act, 1963 (Act No. 16 of 1963); 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[The Allied Health Professions Act 7 of 2004 has been replaced by the Health Professions Act 16 of 2024.]

PART II
REGISTRATION OF OPTOMETRISTS

Application for registration as optometrist and submitting of particulars

2. (1) An application for the registration of a person as an optometrist under section 20 of the Act must be accompanied, in addition to the documents and particulars specified in subsection (2) of that section, by -

- (a) a certified copy of the identity document or passport of the applicant;
- (b) a certificate issued by the Council in such form as the Council may determine, certifying that the applicable; and

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- (c) if the qualification upon which the applicant relies for registration as an optometrist is a qualification referred to in section 22(1)(a) of the Act, the original certificate of registration to practice as an optometrist in the country where the applicant obtained the qualification, issued by the relevant registration authority of that country.

(2) If the applicant is not registered with the registration authority referred to in paragraph (c) of subregulation (1), he or she must submit to the registrar, together with his or her application for registration -

- (a) a certificate, issued by that registration authority, certifying that the qualification or qualifications of which the applicant is the holder, entitles him or her to registration as an optometrist in the country where the applicant obtained such qualification or qualifications; or
- (b) if he or she had been so registered previously, a certificate issued by that registration authority, specifying that the applicant had been so registered previously, that his or her name had been removed from the register and the grounds for such removal.

(3) The Council may require the applicant to furnish, in such manner as the Council may determine, proof of the applicant's proficiency in the English language.

PART III
REGISTRATION OF ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Registrable additional qualifications

3. (1) The following qualifications are the additional qualifications referred to in section 32(1)(a) of the Act, which qualifications may be registered, subject to these regulations, by the Council in respect of a person registered as an optometrist:

Qualification	Educational institution Authority	City and country or other examining
Certificate of Advanced Study in Ocular Diseases and Pharmaceutical Application	Graduate Institute of Optometry	Port Elizabeth South Africa
Certificate of Advanced Study in Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agents	Graduate Institute of Optometry	Port Elizabeth South Africa
Certificate of Advanced Study in Neural Basis of Optometry	Graduate Institute of Optometry	Port Elizabeth South Africa
Certificate in Orthokeratology Contact Lens Institute	Contact Lens Institute	Cape Town South Africa
Diploma in Sports Vision	University of Johannesburg	Johannesburg South Africa
Master Philosophiae Degree	University of Johannesburg	Johannesburg

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in Optometry

South Africa

(2) An additional qualification prescribed by subregulation (1) may not be registered in respect of a person registered as an optometrist, unless the registration authority of the country where the applicant obtained the qualification recognizes that qualification as an additional qualification that may be registered as such in that country.

Application for registration of additional qualification and submitting of particulars

4. Application by an optometrist in accordance with section 32(2) of the Act for the registration of an additional qualification, must be accompanied, in addition to the documents and particular specified in subsection (3) of that section, by proof, to the satisfaction of the Council, that -

- (a) the applicant -
 - (i) is registered to practice as an optometrist in Namibia; and
 - (ii) is the holder of that additional qualification; and
- (b) the registration authority of the country where the applicant obtained the qualification recognizes that qualification as an additional qualification that may be registered as such in that country.

PART IV
REGISTERS AND RESTORATION OF NAME TO REGISTER

Register of optometrists

5. The register of optometrists established and kept in accordance with subsection (2) of section 24 of the Act, must contain, in addition to the particulars specified by subsection (3) of that section, particulars of -

- (a) the additional qualifications entered against the name of the optometrist concerned in accordance with subsection (4) of section 32 of the Act and these regulations; and
- (b) any change in any of the particulars recorded in the register.

Restoration of name to register

6. An application in accordance with section 26 of the Act for the restoration of the name of a person to the register, in addition to the documents and particulars specified in subsection (2) of that section, must be accompanied by -

- (a) the original registration certificate issued in the name of the applicant under section 21 (4)(b) of the Act, or if for any reason the original certificate cannot be submitted, proof to the satisfaction of the Council that the applicant had been so registered; and
- (b) a photocopy of the identity document or the passport of the applicant, duly certified by a commissioner of oaths as a true copy of the original.

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PART V
GENERAL

Language of forms and documents

7. (1) Subject to subregulation (2), any form or document that must be submitted to the Council or to the registrar in terms of these regulations must be in the English language.

(2) Any form or document referred to in subregulation (1) that is not in the English language must be accompanied by a sworn translation thereof into that language, acceptable to the Council.