

Minnesota
Optometrist
**Dr. Tate
Herman**

HF1031/SF659

Providing Critical Eye Care to Minnesota

Alternative Option: HF1033 allows the Minnesota Board of Optometry to update scope to current training levels.

Doctors of optometry have been the first source to manage eye health conditions for decades. With offices in 77 of the 87 Minnesota counties, optometrists are accessible to all Minnesotans – there are three times as many optometrists as ophthalmologists in Minnesota. Unfortunately, with no updated scope laws in the last 20 years, Minnesota optometrists are forced to practice outdated optometry, leaving Minnesotans in desperate need of eye care with a short list of imperfect options: wait for an ophthalmologist or drive out of state to get faster care.

Doctors of optometry are expertly trained to deliver an essential component of patients' overall primary health care; the doctoral level degree program in optometry is comprised of four years of extensive classroom, laboratory and clinical training at an accredited optometry school.

During a comprehensive eye exam, doctors of optometry not only determine eye and vision health, but also can identify early warning signs and manifestations of systemic diseases including macular degeneration, glaucoma, diabetes, cancer and more. Minnesota optometrists prescribe medications for ocular disease, assist in the prevention of disease and provide urgent ocular care for injuries and infections.

Support HF1031/SF659 to give Minnesotan's the access to the eye care they deserve.

Proposed legislation would remove outdated restrictions in current optometry scope of practice.

- Remove 10 day restriction on prescribing oral antivirals (*allowed in 47 other states*)
- Remove seven day restriction on prescribing oral carbonic anhydrase inhibitors (*allowed in 44 states*)
- Remove restriction on prescribing oral steroids, with a 14 day limit (*allowed in 44 states*)
- Remove restriction on administering injections to treat eye conditions (*allowed in 24 states*)

Contact Minnesota Optometric Association
Executive Director Beth Coleman-Jensen
at 952.921.5881 or beth@mneyedocs.org.

OR

Learn more by scanning
the QR code or by visiting
trustedeyecaremn.com



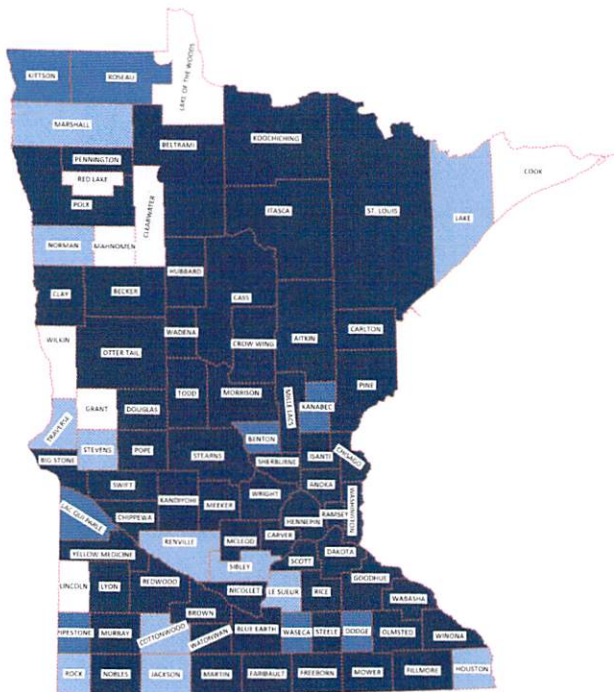
Minnesota's Optometrists

Providing Critical Eye Care to Minnesota

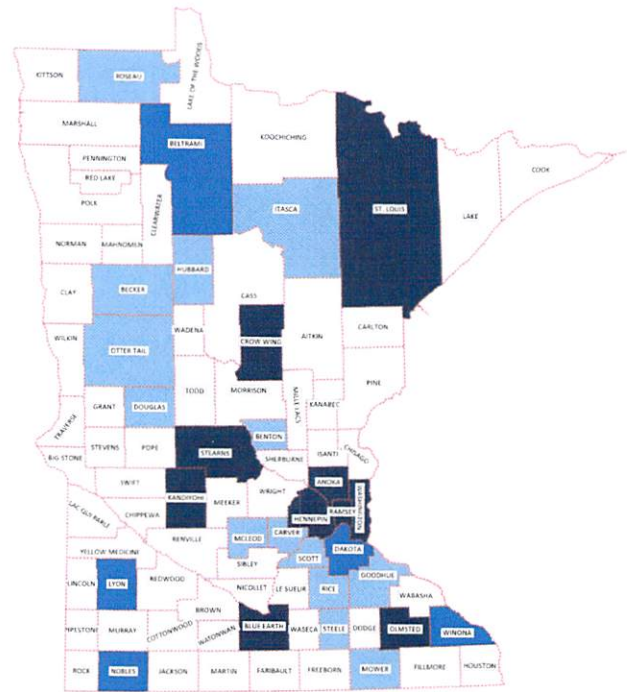
Alternative Option: HF1033 allows the Minnesota Board of Optometry to update scope to current training levels.

Doctors of optometry provide more than two-thirds of primary eye health care in America and more than 99 percent of the U.S. population lives in counties with an eye doctor.

Optometry has greater geographic distribution and is more accessible than other eye care professions in Minnesota; 77 out of 87 counties in Minnesota have an Optometrist.



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Minnesota Access to Eye Care – 2022

Doctor of Optometry Location/Doctor Combinations



Minnesota Access to Eye Care – 2022

Ophthalmology Locations/Doctor Combinations



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Minnesota's Optometrists

Doctors of optometry have extensive schooling and continued learning. All 50 states and the District of Columbia require doctors of optometry to participate in ongoing education courses to stay current on the latest standards of care and to be eligible for license renewal.

Below is a look at the topics and classes a doctor of optometry will become knowledgeable in long before receiving their license. In addition to these many specific focuses, they are also educated in general medicine.

YEARS ONE AND TWO

- Optics • Vision Science • Binocular Vision
- Ocular Pharmacology • Color Vision
- Human Anatomy (Human Cadaver Dissection)
- Neuro Anatomy & Physiology (Brain Dissection)
- Epidemiology/Biostatistics and Public Health
- Pharmacology (Animal Lab)
- Pathology • Respiratory Systems
- Histology and Cell Biology
- Dermatology • Microbiology • Endocrinology
- Reproductive Systems and STDs
- Clinical Diagnosis • Gastroenterology
- Clinical Methods/Interviewing/Physical Exams
- Infectious Disease • Cardiovascular Systems

YEAR THREE

- Evidence Based Health Care
- Glaucoma/ Neuro Eye III and IV
- Specialty Rotation (Advanced Eyecare)
- Specialty Rotation (Vision Rehabilitation)
- Specialty Rotation (Pediatrics/Binocular Vision)

YEAR THREE (cont.)

- Specialty Rotation (Cornea/ Contact Lens)
- Patient Care Program (Primary Eyecare)
IV, V, VI, and VII
- Community-Based Patient Care (CPS)
- Eyewear Center II
- Contact Lenses II
- Infant/ Child Development and Management
- Clinical Medicine I and II
- Retina I and II • Binocular Vision Disorders
- General & Ocular Emergencies
- Ocular Disease Seminar
- Strabismus and Amblyopia, I and II
- Injections and Minor Surgical Procedures
- Business of Optometry
- Ophthalmic Lasers • Practice Management III

YEAR FOUR

- Externship Rotations (20 CR hrs each):
- Eye Institute Patient Care Rotation
- VA/Hospital Based Externship Rotation
- Specialty Externship Rotation

By the time they've reached the end of their initial schooling, before licensure, doctors of optometry have gained approximately 10,000 hours of training.



Minnesota's Optometrists

Injectable Authority

