

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CLASSIFICATION SPECIFICATION

OPTOMETRIST

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose of This Classification Specification

This classification specification is the basic authority under Wis. Admin. Code ER 2.04 for making classification decisions relative to present and future professional positions located within the classified service which perform professional optometric work which requires a license to practice optometry in the State of Wisconsin. This classification specification is not intended to identify every duty which may be assigned to positions, but is intended to serve as a framework for classification decision making in this occupational area.

Classification decisions must be based on the “best fit” of the duties within the existing classification structure. The “best fit” is determined by the majority (i.e., more than 50%) of the work assigned to and performed by the position when compared to the class concepts and definition of this specification or through other methods of position analysis. Position analysis defines the nature and character of the work through the use of any or all of the following: definition statements; listing of areas of specialization; representative examples of work performed; allocation patterns of representative positions; job evaluation guide charts, standards or factors; statements of inclusion and exclusion; licensure or certification requirements; and other such information necessary to facilitate the assignment of positions to the appropriate classification.

B. Inclusions

The positions in this classification meet the definition of optometrist as defined in Chapter 449, Wis. Stats., as an individual possessing a degree in optometry as determined by the Optometry Examining Board, and holding a license granted by the Optometry Examining Board. The practice of optometry is defined as: the employment of any optometric means to determine the visual efficiency of the human visual system or to diagnose the presence of ocular disease or ocular manifestations of systemic disease and other departures from normal; the diagnosis and treatment of refractive and functional ability of the visual system and enhancements of visual performance; examining into the fact, condition or cause of ocular health or disease, by any optometric means or instrumentality; and applying principles or techniques of optometric sciences in the diagnosis, prevention or treatment of a condition or cause of ocular health or disease.

C. Exclusions

Excluded from this classification are the following types of positions:

1. Positions which meet the statutory definition(s) of supervisor or management as defined in Wis. Stats. 111.81(19) and (13) as administered and interpreted by the Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission.
2. Positions which require a degree of medicine specializing in ophthalmology.

3. Positions which do not require a license to practice optometry in the State of Wisconsin.
4. All other positions which are more appropriately identified by other classification specifications.

II. DEFINITION

OPTOMETRIST

Positions in this classification practice optometry and perform professional optometry work which involves the determination of the visual efficiency of the human visual system; the diagnosis of the presence of ocular disease or ocular manifestations of systemic disease and other departures from normal; the diagnosis and treatment of the refractive and functional ability of the visual system and enhancement of visual performance; examining into the fact, condition or cause of ocular health or disease, or treating or rendering advice regarding a condition or cause of ocular health or disease, by any optometric means or instrumentality; and applying principles or techniques of optometric sciences in the diagnosis, prevention or treatment of a condition or cause of ocular health or disease. The practice of the profession of optometry does not include surgery or medical treatment. These positions are located in state institutions or in field and central administrative office settings.

Examples of Work Performed:

Attends to the optometric needs of residents or inmates.

Diagnoses and treats the refractive and functional ability of the visual system.

Prescribes, furnishes, fits or employs ophthalmic lenses, contact lenses, frames, aids or prosthetic materials.

Arranges for medical consultation where required.

Diagnoses ocular disease or manifestations of ocular disease.

Administers visual training, orthoptics, visual therapy or any other optometric means.

Prescribes or administers drugs for ocular therapeutic purposes or removing superficial foreign bodies from the eye or an appendage to the eye.

III. QUALIFICATIONS

The qualifications required for these positions will be determined at the time of recruitment. Such determinations will be made based on an analysis of the goals and worker activities performed and by an identification of the education, training, work, or other life experience which would provide reasonable assurance that the knowledge and skills required upon appointment have been acquired.

Special Requirement: Must possess a license to practice optometry in the State of Wisconsin. Some positions may require completion of an examination on the subject of general and ocular pharmacology as it relates to optometry.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

This classification was created effective February 1, 1998, and announced in Bulletin CC/SC-81 to describe positions which are licensed to practice optometry.