



Competency Assessment

The Policy Issue

CAO and the profession of optometry strongly support the requirement for a post-graduation, entry to practice competency assessment. It is important that the assessment takes into account the National Competency Profile for Entry-Level Optometry. This profile includes the competencies required of optometrists for safe, effective, and ethical practice at the point of entry to the profession in Canada.¹ These competencies were developed by the Canadian Examiners in Optometry (CEO-ECO) in concert with the profession, and they form the basis of CEO-ECO's Canadian Assessment of Competence in Optometry (CACO).

Policy Position

Competency assessment for individuals seeking to practice optometry in Canada should be part of a uniform, national occupational requirement and should be designed and administered solely by Canadian optometry in order to reflect Canadian standards and competencies.

-September 2016

References:

- i. The competencies currently assessed are Communication, Professionalism, Patient-Centered Care, Assessment, Diagnosis and Planning, Patient Management, Collaborative Practice, Scholarship, and Practice Management.