



Exempt Action Final Regulation Agency Background Document

Agency name	Board of Optometry, Department of Health Professions
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation	18VAC105-20-10 et seq.
Regulation title	Regulations Governing the Practice of Optometry
Action title	Reduction in certain fees
Final agency action date	8/3/06
Document preparation date	8/7/06

When a regulatory action is exempt from executive branch review pursuant to § 2.2-4002 or § 2.2-4006 of the Virginia Administrative Process Act (APA), the agency is encouraged to provide information to the public on the Regulatory Town Hall using this form.

Note: While posting this form on the Town Hall is optional, the agency must comply with requirements of the Virginia Register Act, the *Virginia Register Form, Style, and Procedure Manual*, and Executive Orders 21 (02) and 58 (99).

Summary

Please provide a brief summary of all regulatory changes, including the rationale behind such changes. Alert the reader to all substantive matters or changes. If applicable, generally describe the existing regulation.

In order to reduce an accumulated surplus in the budget of the Board of Optometry, a reduction in the application fees and a two-year reduction in renewal fees have been adopted. The application fee for initial application and licensure has been reduced from \$300 to \$250, and the application fee for reinstatement reduced from \$450 to \$400. Renewal fee for optometrists will be reduced by at least half for the two annual renewal cycles (from \$150 to \$75 for optometrists without TPA certification and from \$200 to \$90 for optometrists with TPA certification); late fees are reduced proportionately.

This action is exempt from the Virginia Administrative Process Act in § 2.2-4006 A 7:
“Regulations of the regulatory boards served by (i) the Department of Labor and Industry pursuant to Title 40.1 and (ii) the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation or the Department of Health Professions pursuant to Title 54.1 that are limited to reducing fees charged to regulants and applicants.”

Statement of final agency action

Please provide a statement of the final action taken by the agency including (1) the date the action was taken, (2) the name of the agency taking the action, and (3) the title of the regulation.

On August 3, 2006, the Board of Optometry amended 18VAC105-20-10 et seq., Regulations Governing the Practice of Optometry for a reduction in application fees and a two-year reduction in renewal fees and late fees for the renewal cycle in 2006 and 2007.

Family impact

Assess the impact of this regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability.

There is no impact of this regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability.