



HONORED FELLOW MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Established in 1926 as the Guild of Prescription Opticians, the Opticians Association of America (OAA) is the only national organization representing opticianry's business, professional, educational, legislative and regulatory interests.

As a member of the association, OAA represents you. OAA is the voice of the opticianry industry and works as a promoter and communicator within and outside the industry while also protecting the reputation and perception of the industry in a local and global market.

Eligibility: Any person who is employed as a dispensing optician and has passed the ABO, NCLE, or State Equivalent Examination or is a member of an OAA State Association and is in sympathy with the purposes and objectives of the Association shall be eligible for an Honored Fellow Membership provided such person is not a proprietor, partner or officer of an optical dispensing firm or practice. If you are a member of a state association that is a member of OAA, you are eligible for a Dual-Honored Fellow Membership. *Proprietors, partners and officers of Firm Members shall be eligible for Firm or Guild Membership(s).*

Benefits of Membership: OAA provides our membership several avenues of assistance: promoting the industry as a whole; creating opportunities to assist you in making new industry contacts; strengthening your existing business relationships and keeping you abreast of current conditions and advances within the industry.

Networking & Marketing

- ***American Optician*** – a premier industry publication that is distributed twice annually to OAA members, industry leaders, and media professionals throughout North America. Through its relevant and insightful content, the *American Optician* keeps readers on the inside track about issues and events facing the opticianry industry.
- OAA's Annual **National Opticians Convention** – truly a unique gathering of the opticianry community, the annual convention provides attendees time for direct, personal contact with industry leaders and exhibitors. Educational seminars, keynote speakers and peer networking opportunities are all part of the annual convention.
- OAA's Annual **State Leadership Conference** - Leaders from a majority of the States and Canada attend educational seminars and topic specific breakout sessions that address subjects from growing membership numbers and legislative affairs to hosting meetings and communication synergy. The attendees immerse themselves in networking events that help build better synergy throughout North America.

- **eBlasts** – Throughout the year, OAA will send important updates to you via email to ensure that you are informed of industry related issues from legislation to the latest technology available to the industry.
- The Opticians Association of America represents you in many areas that you may be unaware. OAA has representatives on the ANSI Standards Board, American Board of Opticianry (ABO); Commission on Opticianry Accreditation (COA), Foundation for Eye Health Awareness, National Contact Lens Examiners (NCLE); National Federation of Opticianry Schools (NFOS), the Opticianry Summit Foundation, the Sun Initiative Planning Team and The Vision Council.

Education:

OAA offers the training and resources you need, regardless of the level of your career or the size of your company.

- Spectacle and Contact Lens Online Education
- Online Store with Manuals, Test Reviews and Home-Study Courses
- Leadership Development Classes and Sessions
- Industry Specific Education Seminars and Management Classes

Advocacy:

- OAA provides a strong voice for the opticianry industry on legislative issues impacting how our industry operates in your home state as well as nationally.
- OAA's government relations program helps develop policy positions that the industry pursues to ensure laws and regulations are favorable to the interests of opticians.
- OAA provides education to lawmakers and policy makers on the benefits of the opticianry industry.

Improve Your Status as an Optician:

OAA's standards mean quality. For nearly a century, our name has given opticians a competitive advantage in the marketplace.

- Your membership gives you instant credibility and name recognition and helps you gain a foothold within the industry that no other association can provide.
- You have access to our online membership directory, job listing postings and other support services to assist you in becoming a successful optician.
- You will receive an Honored Fellow Membership Window Decal and an Honored Fellow Membership Wall Certificate for your office and an Honored Fellow Lapel Pin, so that consumers know that they are dealing with a highly professional and respected optician.
- OAA and OAA Honored Fellow Logo Usage Privileges – use the OAA logos on your business cards, office literature, and any other products you want to show you are serious about professionalism. Use your Honored Fellow Membership on your resume when you are looking to make a change – once again showing your commitment to the profession.
- Use of the HFOAA designation (ex. Your Name, HFOAA) to separate yourself from other practicing opticians.
- As an Honored Fellow, you are eligible to vote as a member of the Opticians Association of America at the annual business meeting of the Association (Delegate Assembly)

Other Important Benefits:

- Access to the OAA Health Insurance Plan
- Office Depot Discount Card
- Access to OAA's PartnerShip Program (featuring shipping Discounts from FedEx)

- Access to OAA's Marketplace (Member Benefits and Special Offers from Corporate Partners)
- Online Education Discounted Member Rates
- Education Study Materials Discounted Member Rates
- MySocialReach Discounted Member Rates
- VisionWeb Royalty Program – Benefiting Your State Association
- Sprint Wireless Program
- First Data Credit Card Processing Systems Discount Program
- Liberty Mutual Auto & Home Insurance Program
- Mutual of Omaha's Disability Insurance Program
- Allied Storage and Moving Program
- OAA State Leadership Conference Registration Member Rate
- Free Exhibit Hall Admission at International Vision Expo East and West
- Membership Packet