



Republic of the Philippines
Professional Regulation Commission
Manila



PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

Resolution No. **02**

Series of 2020

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR OPTOMETRISTS DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD PURSUANT TO COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 2019-1146 ENTITLED “AMENDING RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF RESOLUTION NO. 1032 (s. 2017) OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS (IRR) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10912, KNOWN AS THE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD) ACT OF 2016”

WHEREAS, Republic Act (R.A.) 10912 was enacted to promote and upgrade the practice of the professions in the country and institute measures that will continuously improve the competence of the professionals in accordance with the international standards of professional practice, thereby, ensuring their contribution in uplifting the general welfare, economic growth and development of the nation;

WHEREAS, the Professional Regulation Commission (Commission) issued Resolution No. 2019-1146 (s.2019) entitled “Amending Relevant Provisions of Resolution No. 1032 (s. 2017) otherwise known as the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act No. 10912, known as the Continuing Professional Development Act (CPD) of 2016”, provides for a **Transition Period** in order to develop the necessary standards, processes, capacity, and infrastructure while minimizing the cost and inconvenience to concerned professionals;

WHEREAS, in order to conform with the provisions of the said resolution, the Professional Regulatory Boards (Boards) are mandated to issue Operational Guidelines during the Transition Period.

NOW THEREFORE, in compliance with the mandate of the Commission and after consultation with the stakeholders, the Professional Regulatory Board of Optometry (Board) hereby **RESOLVES** to issue these Operational Guidelines during the transition period pursuant to Commission Resolution No. 1146 (s. 2019), as follows:

Section 1. During the transition period the following shall be observed:

- a.) Registered and licensed Optometrists working overseas shall not be covered by the CPD requirement.
- b.) Newly registered Optometrists shall not be covered by the CPD requirement for the first renewal cycle (3 years) after obtaining their license.
- c.) The CPD Council for Optometrists shall reduce the required CPD credit units to fifteen (15) for the renewal of PIC, while Senior Citizens and differently abled persons/ Persons with Disability (PWD) are required to present ten (10) credit units.
- d.) CPD providers with valid accreditation during this transition period may continue their offering of CPD programs.

Section 2. Recognition of Credit Units – All duly validated and recognized CPD credit units earned by a professional shall be accumulated in accordance with the pathways and equivalencies of the Philippine Qualifications Framework (PQF).

Excess credit units may be used on the next renewal cycle.

CPD credit unit refers to the value of an amount of learning achieved from formal, informal or non-formal learning including professional work experience wherein credits can be accumulated to pre-determined levels for the award of a qualification.

Section 3. Presumptive Approval – The approval of application shall be made by the CPD Council under the following conditions:

- 3.1. Applications for CPD programs of accredited CPD Providers shall be submitted not less than fifteen (15) working days before the scheduled date of program offering.

Only applications with complete documentary requirement shall be accepted.

- 3.2. All CPD programs duly submitted for accreditation shall be deemed approved after ten (10) working days from official receipt thereof, if no feedback from the CPD Council is received. However, should the Council require for more information, it shall have ten (10) working days from receipt of the additional documents within which to evaluate the same.
- 3.3. All Self-Directed Learning (SDL) applications shall be deemed approved after fifteen (15) working days from official receipt thereof, if no feedback from the CPD Council is received. However, should the Council require for more information, it shall have fifteen (15) working days from receipt of the additional documents within which to evaluate the same.

Section 4. Expiration of the Transition Period – The transition period shall expire after the antecedents have been met as stated in Annex "A" of Resolution No. 2019-1146 upon recommendation of the CPD Council for Optometrists, through the Board, and approved by the Commission.

Section 5. Accreditation of CPD Program – Any accredited CPD Provider may apply for accreditation of its program to the CPD Council of Optometry for approval after evaluation on its relevance, value and/or applicability of the program to the profession as basis of the grant of CPD credit units.

Section 6. In-house Training Programs – In-house training programs and capacity-building activities of government agencies and private employers shall be accredited and considered as CPD compliance of their employed professionals.

- 6.1. Government agencies and private employers shall apply for accreditation as CPD Providers.
- 6.2. Upon approval of accreditation, government agencies and private employers shall apply for accreditation of their respective in-house training programs and capacity-building activities.

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- 6.3.** For registered optometrists who are employed by non-accredited CPD providers, their certificates of training shall be applied for credit units under SDL modality.

Section 7. Registered Optometrists Who Executed an Undertaking – Optometrists who executed an undertaking before this transition period shall comply only with fifteen (15) credit units.

Section 8. Repealing Clause – All Resolutions, orders, circulars, issuances and parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Resolution are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 9. Effectivity – This Resolution shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in a major newspaper of general circulation, copy furnished the U.P. Law Center.

Done in the City of Manila, this 6th day of May, 2020.



BERNARDITA A. GARCIA
Chairperson

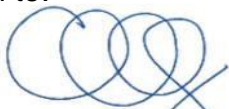


MARIO T. FLORES, JR.
Member



IRENE CHRISTINE C. PELIÑO
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Attested to:



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