



Ag Rialáil Gairmithe Sláinte  
agus Cúraim Shóisialaigh

Regulating Health +  
Social Care Professionals

# Optical Registration Board

Public Consultation Report on the Conditions for entry  
into the Contact Lenses Division of the Register of  
Dispensing Opticians Bye-Law

October 2015

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## Introduction

### **About the Optical Registration Board**

The Optical Registration Board has statutory responsibility for the registration of members of the profession; approval and monitoring of education and training programmes; establishing the code of professional conduct and ethics and standards of performance to which Optical must adhere and recognition of qualifications gained outside the State.

### **About CORU**

CORU is responsible for regulating health and social care professions. It comprises the Health and Social Care Professionals Council and the registration boards established under the Health and Social Care Professionals Act 2005 (as amended).

CORU's role is to protect the public by promoting high standards of professional conduct, professional education, training and competence amongst the designated professions.

The designated professions under the Act are social workers, clinical biochemists, opticians, medical scientists, occupational therapists, orthoptists, physiotherapists, podiatrists, psychologists, radiographers, social care workers and speech and language therapists.

## **The Public Consultation Process**

### **Background**

The Optical Registration Board has prepared a draft Bye-Law on a Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Opticians.

When finalised, the Code will specify the standards of conduct, performance and ethics expected of registered Optical, and it is intended to reflect the needs of patients.

### **Publicising the Consultation Process**

A public consultation on the draft Bye-Law was held between 30 July 2015 and 8 September 2015.

A number of channels were used to publicise the consultation process and invite the submission of observations. These included:

- An advertisement was placed in the Irish Times on Thursday, July 30 (See appendix two for a copy of the advertisement).
- A press release was placed on [www.coru.ie](http://www.coru.ie) (See appendix one for a copy of the press release).
- An online survey was developed. An email with a link was also sent to a targeted list of over 700 stakeholders, including the Professional Bodies, Trade Unions, educators and other interested parties who have previously corresponded with CORU (see appendix 3 for a copy of the survey).
- Information on the consultation along with a link to the online feedback form was hosted on the CORU website.

People were invited to participate in the consultation process in a number of ways:

- They could ring CORU to request a copy of the draft Bye-Law, and to offer feedback
- They could visit CORU's office to view the draft Bye-Law, and give their feedback in person.
- They could visit [www.coru.ie](http://www.coru.ie) and choose to complete an online feedback form, to print a copy of the form and post it, or email it to CORU.
- They could email submissions to [consultation@coru.ie](mailto:consultation@coru.ie)

## Overview of responses to consultation

There were no responses to the online survey:

Respondents were asked to identify if they were offering feedback on their own behalf or on behalf of an institution or organisation.

Individual	0
Organisation	0
Institution	0

## Acknowledgements

CORU would like to extend its appreciation and thank to all those who participated in the consultation process. The report from the consultation process was reviewed by the Optical Registration Board.

## Issues emerging from the consultation process

Given that there were no responses to the public consultation process, there were no issues emerging.

### **Conclusion:**

The Optical Registration Board determined that it was not necessary to make amendments to the draft bye-law and it was agreed to submit the bye-law to Council for approval. The Council approved the draft bye-law on the 14 October 2015. The Optical Registration Board made the Bye-Law on the 21 October 2015 and submitted to the Minister for laying before the Houses of the Oireachtas.

## Appendix 1: Press release

### Optical Registration Board - Public Consultation

CORU is preparing for the transfer of the registers for dispensing opticians and optometrists from Bord na Radharcmhastóirí (the Opticians Board) to the Optical Registration Board at CORU, later this year.

The Optical Registration Board at CORU is currently working to put in place the standards that will determine how the two professions are regulated in the future.

The Board wants to hear the views of members of the professions, the public and stakeholders on a number of matters relating to the statutory registration of optometrists and dispensing opticians at CORU:

- **Optical Registration Board Draft Application for Registration Bye-Law 2015**
- **Optical Registration Board Draft Conditions for Registration in the Contact Lenses Division of the Register of Dispensing Opticians Bye-Law 2015**
- **Optical Registration Board Draft Return to Practice Bye-Law 2015**

By participating in this consultation process you are helping to shape how optometrists and dispensing opticians are regulated.

The full text of each of the bye-laws can be viewed below.

- [Optical Registration Board Draft Application for Registration Bye-Law 2015](#)
- [Optical Registration Board Draft Conditions for Registration in the Contact Lenses Division of the Register of Dispensing Opticians Bye-Law 2015](#)
- [Optical Registration Board Draft Return to Practice Bye-Law 2015](#)

or can be requested by emailing [consultation@coru.ie](mailto:consultation@coru.ie) or calling us on 01 2933160. Feedback can be provided by filling in the consultation feedback forms, which can be found at the following links:

- [Optical Registration Board Draft Application for Registration Bye-Law 2015](#)
- [Optical Registration Board Draft Conditions for Registration in the Contact Lenses Division of the Register of Dispensing Opticians Bye-Law 2015](#)
- [Optical Registration Board Draft Return to Practice Bye-Law 2015](#)

You can also email your feedback to [consultation@coru.ie](mailto:consultation@coru.ie) or send it in writing to Public Consultation, CORU, 13 - 15 The Mall, Beacon Court, Bracken Rd., Sandyford, Dublin 18.

The **closing date** for receipt of submissions is **5:00pm on Tuesday, September 8 2015**. Any submissions received after that time will not be considered.

## Appendix 2: Copy of Advertisement



Ag Rialáil Gairmithe Stáinte  
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Public  
Consultation

### Statutory Registration of Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians at CORU

The Optical Registration Board at CORU wants to hear the views of optometrists, dispensing opticians, and other interested parties on a number of matters relating to the statutory registration of optometrists and dispensing opticians:

- Application for Registration Bye-Law 2015
- Conditions for Registration in the Contact Lenses Division of the Register of Dispensing Opticians Bye-Law 2015
- Return to Practice Bye-Law 2015

Further information on these consultations including a 'feedback form' is available on [www.coru.ie](http://www.coru.ie) or by contacting CORU on 01 2933160 or emailing [consultation@coru.ie](mailto:consultation@coru.ie)

The closing date for receipt of submissions is 5pm on Tuesday, 8 September 2015. Submissions received after this date will not be considered.

CORU, 13-15 The Mall, Beacon Court, Bracken Road, Sandyford, Dublin 18.  
T: 01 2933160 E: [info@coru.ie](mailto:info@coru.ie) W: [www.coru.ie](http://www.coru.ie)



## Appendix 3: Copy of Online Feedback Form

### Optical Registration Board: Public Consultation on the Conditions for entry into the Contact Lenses Division of the Register of Dispensing Opticians Bye-Law

Thank you for taking the time to participate in CORU's consultation process on the Optical Registration Board Conditions for entry into the Contact Lenses Division of the Register of Dispensing Opticians Bye-Law as drafted. This bye-law sets out the requirements for those applying for registration in the Contact Lenses Division of the Register of Dispensing Opticians.

The Optical Registration Board was appointed by the Minister for Health in February 2015 to regulate the professions of optometrist and dispensing optician at CORU. It is anticipated that the Optical Registration Board will take over this function from Bord na Radharcmhastóirí later this year. The Optical Registration Board is currently making arrangements for this transfer, including preparing the registration applications process.

CORU is working to protect the public by promoting high standards of professional conduct, education, training and competence through the statutory registration of Health and Social Care Professionals. If you have any queries about the consultation process or completing the survey, please contact CORU on (01) 2933160 or email [consultation@coru.ie](mailto:consultation@coru.ie).

The closing date for receipt of submissions is 5:00pm on Tuesday, 8 September 2015. Any submissions received after that time will not be considered. A report on the consultation process will be published on [www.coru.ie](http://www.coru.ie). We want to hear the views of the public and the profession and by participating in this consultation process. You are helping to shape how Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians are regulated.

Yours faithfully,

Ginny Hanrahan  
Registrar

#### 1. Contact Details:

**You do not need to provide this information but please do if you would like us to provide you with details on the outcome of this consultation process.**

**First Name:**

**Surname:**

Email

Telephone Number

**Q2**

**2. Are you contributing to this survey in (please tick one)**

- a personal capacity?
- on behalf of an organisation?

**If on behalf of an organisation, please specify:**

**Q3**

**3. Please indicate if you would like your name and/or organisation to be kept confidential and excluded from the consultation report.**

- Include in consultation report
- Exclude from consultation report

**It would be helpful if you could explain if you regard the information you have provided as confidential**

**Q4**

**4. Please provide any comments you have on the Conditions for entry into the Contact Lenses Division of the Register of Dispensing Opticians Bye-Law as drafted.**

**Q5**

**5. Is the language used and the layout of the draft bye-law easy to follow and understand?**

- Yes
- No

**Please comment in the space provided below**

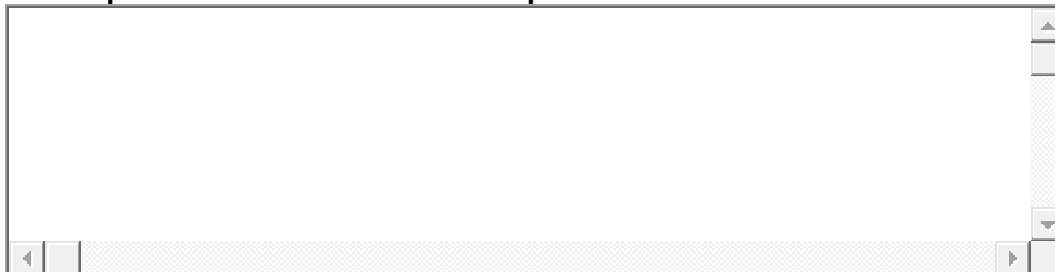
A rectangular text input field with a light gray border. It contains a vertical scrollbar on the right side and horizontal scrollbars at the bottom, indicating it is a scrollable area for providing comments.

**Q6**

**6. Is there anything that you consider should be amended in this bye-law?**

- Yes
- No

**Please provide further details in the space below**

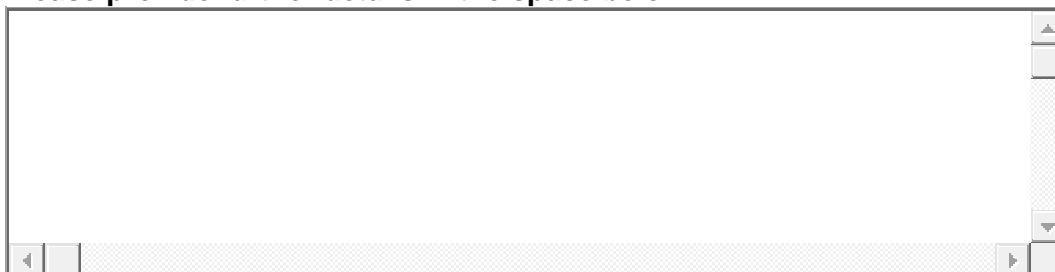
A rectangular text input field with a light gray border. It contains a vertical scrollbar on the right side and horizontal scrollbars at the bottom, indicating it is a scrollable area for providing further details.

**Q7**

**7. Is there anything you believe should be added to this bye-law?**

- Yes
- No

**Please provide further details in the space below**

A rectangular text input field with a light gray border. It contains a vertical scrollbar on the right side and horizontal scrollbars at the bottom, indicating it is a scrollable area for providing further details.

**Q8**

**8. Is there anything you believe should be removed from this bye-law?**

- Yes
- No

**Please provide further details in the space below**

**Q9**

**9. How did you hear about this consultation? (please tick as many as apply)**

- Advertisement in a newspaper
- On [www.coru.ie](http://www.coru.ie)
- By email

**Other (please specify)**

Thank you for participating in this consultation process. Your views will be taken into consideration.

If you have any queries please contact CORU on 01 2933160 or email [consultation@coru.ie](mailto:consultation@coru.ie)

## **Appendix 4: Conditions for entry in to the Contact Lenses Division of the Register of Dispensing Opticians Bye- Law**

[Please click on the link here to view the full text of the Bye-Law](#)