



INDIVIDUAL 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 is in sympathy with the purposes and objectives of the Association shall be eligible for Individual Membership provided such person is not a proprietor, partner or officer of an optical dispensing firm or practice. *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.
- Twice annually, OAA sends out an **eConference Guide** that lists all the state association meetings, educational conferences and conventions.
- Through **strategic alliances** with the American Board of Opticianry (ABO); the Commission on Opticianry Accreditation (COA), the Contact Lens Society of America (CLSA); the National Academy of Opticianry (NAO); National Contact Lens Examiners (NCLE); the Vision Council;

State Associations and many industry partners, your OAA membership immediately shows your credibility to these and other organizations that work directly with opticians.

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
- Access to the CLSAU Online University
- 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.
- Through OAA's website, members are given access to **Capwiz**, an award-winning online advocacy solution that empowers more than 1,700 associations, corporations, and nonprofits to influence legislation by educating and mobilizing their grassroots supporters.

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 a OAA Member Lapel Pin, a Membership Window Sticker for your office, a membership certificate you can display in your office, so that consumers know that they are dealing with a highly professional and respected optician.
- OAA Logo Usage Privileges – use the OAA logo on your business cards, office literature, and any other products you want to show you are serious about professionalism. Use your OAA membership on your resume when you are looking to make a change – once again showing your commitment to the profession.

Other Important Benefits:

- Access to **OAA Health Plan** – With a myriad of plans and an extensive network of national healthcare providers (over 1,000,000), this is one of the most comprehensive health insurance programs available.
- **Hertz Member Savings Card** – Hertz offers OAA members discounts at participating locations in the U.S. and around the world.
- **Membership Discounts** for Online Education Resources to National Convention and State Leadership Conference Registration Fees
- The positive feeling that you are assisting the Opticians Association of America engage opticians through involvement and connection for the direct benefit and growth of our industry.