

Quarterly Paraoptometric Email Newsletter



Para Appreciation Month

It's Paraoptometric Appreciation Month! During the month of September, take the time to recognize your coworkers and staff and the vital role they play in providing the best patient care. Show us on social media how you celebrate staff in your office using #AOAParaMonth. One winning photo will be selected each Friday, beginning Sept. 8, and will receive a \$100 gift card to treat their practice to lunch!

Show support to your exceptional coworkers or staff by nominating them for national recognition later this year. Nominations for three AOA paraoptometric awards will open in early 2024. Click [here](#) to discover how you can nominate a deserving paraoptometric for the AOA Paraoptometric of the Year, AOA Paraoptometric Community Service Award, or CPC Lifetime Achievement Award. All awards will be presented during the June 2024 Optometry's Meeting® in Nashville, Tennessee.

What's New in EyeLearn?

New Paraoptometric Courses


Para Certification Study Hall (CPOA Specific)

Para Speaker Series - Enlightening Perspectives: Understanding Optic Nerve Disease for Paraoptometrics

Para Speaker Series - Minor vs. Major Surgical Procedures: What League Are You Billing In?

#AskAOA: What You Need to Know About the Employee Retention Tax Credit and Other COVID Relief Updates

#AskAOA: Coding for Major Eye Disease: Diabetic Eye Disease



Access the full Paraoptometric Catalog in [EyeLearn](#)

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the over 350 candidates who passed a paraoptometric examination during the February or May examination period. Consider displaying your certificate in the practice where it is visible to patients. The August testing period ended just a few days ago. The results are being finalized and will be available to testers in the next couple of weeks. Keep an eye on your inbox for exam results from Professional Testing Corporation.



2023 Job Task Analysis Survey



The CPO and CPOA surveys have been completed, but CPOTs and doctors of optometry who received the link in their email still have a chance to help guide the profession by completing the survey. The purpose of this survey is to collect data regarding the tasks that paraoptometrics perform nationwide as well as how these tasks are ranked in accordance with importance and frequency. These responses will form the basis for development of the updated paraoptometric certification examinations that will be released in 2025.

A new CPOT examination format: how it will affect you!

The Commission on Paraoptometric Certification (CPC) will start offering a single written CPOT examination beginning in 2025. Paraoptometric staff who are seeking the CPOT certification in 2023 or 2024, and those who have already passed either portion of the CPOT examination, must pass both portions of the CPOT examination by the end of the November 2024 testing period. Anyone registering for an exam in 2025 will only need to pass the new CPOT examination. For more information, contact CPC@aoa.org.



AOA EyeLearn— paraoptometric staff training

Looking for a great way to get your staff involved? Take advantage of group training through EyeLearn. Watch any of the approved webinars in their entirety as a team and successfully complete the accompanying assessment to earn CPC credit(s) or AOA CE hour(s). Set up a session by simply completing the [request form](#) and email it to the [Education Center](#).

[Click here for more information](#)



Para Webinar Series

The Education Center will offer live webinars on these topics as part of the Para Webinars Series and panel discussions.

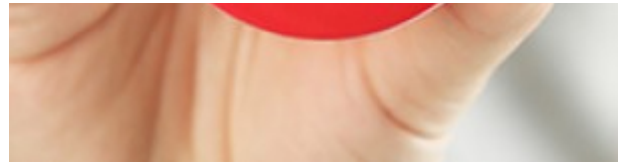
- September – review and triage of topical medications
- October – contact lens safety
- November – diabetic retinopathy
- December – dry eye





C POT Study Hall

The Education Center will be hosting a live C POT Study Hall in October. Date and time will be announced.



Volunteer with CPC and earn CE

The CPC has openings on the Continuing Education Review Committee. This committee is a very active committee mainly in the fall and spring as states and national organizations gear up for annual conferences. Committee members who participate in the review of courses submissions throughout the year will receive CPC-approved CE that can be used toward their next certification renewal. CE is awarded in June each year and is based on participation. Complete an interest form [here](#).



2023 Paraoptometric Examination Schedule

The last paraoptometric examinations for the year will be offered in November. Registration deadlines are quickly approaching! Be sure to utilize the excellent study resources that are available to AOA associate members for free in EyeLearn or that may be purchased by nonmembers. Be sure to take advantage of the new CPOA Para Certification Study Hall (August 2023) recording and handouts that were recently added to EyeLearn.

Download the [2023 Study Resources](#).

[Click here for more information on certification and renewal.](#)

AOA membership has benefits

Access examination prep materials, continuing education, attend live webinars, receive discounts on materials and meeting registration. All for free to paraoptometrics who are employed by an AOA member optometrist. Paraoptometrics can now enroll themselves! All you need is your employer's AOA ID number.

[Read more](#)



Paraoptometric Newsletter archive

Catch up on paraoptometric news you may have missed in the [newsletter archive](#).



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The AOA is here to help.
Chat with an AOA representative via live text between 8 a.m.-5 p.m. CT.
Text 314.597.1939 from an Android or Apple device.

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This message was intended for: wpinkston@aoa.org

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