



## When Should I See An Eye Health Specialist?

Opticians are just one member of the eye care team. Your family doctor can help you determine when you need to see other members, such as optometrists and ophthalmologists, for full eye health exams. Full eye health exams, such as those provided by optometrists, are an important part of your overall eye health.

## How do I Check if My Optician is Registered?

The College of Opticians of British Columbia can assist you in determining if your eyewear specialist is appropriately trained and certified. We can also help if you have any questions about the service you have been provided.

## Looking Out For You

The College of Opticians of BC (COBC) is the health regulatory college for all Opticians in British Columbia. The College establishes qualifications for Opticians and works to ensure Opticians are providing competent and effective care.

For more information, and to check if your optician is registered, please contact us at:

Suite 420 - 2025 West Broadway  
Vancouver, BC, V6J 1Z6  
Tel: (604) 278-7510  
Toll-free: 1-888-771-6755  
Email: [reception@cobc.ca](mailto:reception@cobc.ca)  
Website: [www.cobc.ca](http://www.cobc.ca)



[WWW.COBC.CA](http://WWW.COBC.CA)



## To See Clearly

TRUST YOUR EYESIGHT TO A  
REGISTERED OPTICIAN.



# Why Should I See A REGISTERED OPTICIAN?

Your eyesight is too important to trust to just anyone. Seeing a registered optician will ensure you are getting a high quality service from an accountable professional. Registered opticians have to meet standards of practice and training, commit to ongoing education, hold insurance, and are held to these standards by a regulating body.

Vision correction lenses – such as glasses and contacts - require precise measurements to be taken from your face and eyes, and the results must accurately transfer to the eyewear. This is not a simple task; a mistake of as little as 2 millimeters could mean you may not be able to use your new eyewear.

A registered optician is trained to provide you with choices from the simplest aspect of corrective lenses to the most complicated.

“ Protecting & enhancing your eyesight is the job of Opticians ”

“ Your eyesight is too important to trust to just anyone ”



## What To Expect From Your Optician

### VISION IS A PRECIOUS GIFT

Vision is a precious gift. Protecting and enhancing your eyesight is the job of specially-trained professionals called opticians.

A registered optician is a trained and qualified specialist who can design, fit, and dispense eye-glasses, contact lenses, low vision aids and other devices to optimize your eyesight. Some have further training in refraction, allowing them to test your eyesight and check to see if your current lenses are still working for you.

### OPTICIANS ARE OBLIGATED TO FOLLOW A CODE OF ETHICS

Your registered optician will:

- be honest and impartial
- use their knowledge and skills to improve your visual health and well-being
- protect the privacy of your records
- release your records on your consent to another health professional
- provide you with quality ophthalmic services
- ensure that your service is not interrupted in your Optician's absence

There are over 1000 registered opticians in British Columbia providing services in communities throughout BC.

