

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE

Licensure Requirement Details

OPTICAL TECHNICIAN #4119

Prepared by the Office Career and Technical Education

INDEX

INTRODUCTION.....1

Part A: Career and Technical Education Certificate and Program.....1

Part C: Application for Certificate Using a Degree.....2

 Option 1: Bachelor’s Degree or Higher2

 Option 2: Associate’s Degree3

Part D: Application for Certificate Using Employment Experience4

Part E: Application for Certificate Using Self-Employment Experience6

Part F: Other Credentials6

Part G: Military Service/Troops to Teachers7

Part H: Are You Looking for a Teaching Job in New Jersey?.....7

INTRODUCTION

The following information is provided by the Department of Education to serve as a self-evaluation guide for individuals interested in applying for a career and technical education teaching certificate in the State of New Jersey using the alternate route program. The guide provides information about eligible degrees, employment experience, and self-employment experience that can be used to apply for a certificate. It also contains information regarding required state-issued licenses or credentials, when applicable. Note that this guide is not meant to be used to determine actual eligibility to apply, and it does not contain all of the requirements for an actual certificate application. For complete application information, visit the Office of Licensure and Credentials website at <http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/>. **Individuals who do not hold the required credentials listed on this detail page should consult Part F: Other Credentials.**

PART A: CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE AND PROGRAM

The holder of a **Optical Technician Career and Technical Education Certificate #4119** issued by the New Jersey Department of Education is eligible to teach in the following secondary career and technical education program offered by public school districts in the State of New Jersey:

- ***Ophthalmic Laboratory Technology/Technician, Program CIP Code #51.1006:*** A program that prepares individuals, under the supervision of ophthalmologists and optometrists, to cut, grind, edge, and finish corrective lenses and to fabricate eyewear. Includes instruction in optical theory, applied mathematics, lens surfacing and finishing, tinting and coating, impact resistance treatment and testing, frame construction and repair, prescription interpretation, equipment operation and maintenance, follow-up adjustment, record-keeping, and laboratory safety procedures.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE

Licensure Requirement Details

OPTICAL TECHNICIAN #4119

Prepared by the Office Career and Technical Education

PART B: REQUIRED STATE-ISSUED OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE OR CREDENTIAL

Applicants for the **Optical Technician Career and Technical Education Certificate #4119** must hold a current Ophthalmic Technician License issued by the New Jersey State Board of Examiners of Ophthalmic Dispensers and Ophthalmic Technicians as per N.J.S.A. 52:17B-41 and N.J.A.C. 13:33-1.1. New Jersey State Board of Examiners of Ophthalmic Dispensers and Ophthalmic Technicians Website: http://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/opth/oph_rules.htm

***NOTICE:** Individuals holding a license or other applicable license issued by a state, county, municipality, or government agency other than the New Jersey State Board of Ophthalmic Dispensers and Ophthalmic Technicians will not meet the licensure requirement. Applicants must obtain a license from the New Jersey State Board of Ophthalmic Dispensers and Ophthalmic Technicians *prior* to applying to the New Jersey Department of Education for a Ophthalmic Technician Career and Technical Education Certificate.

PART C: APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE USING A DEGREE

Option 1: Bachelor's degree or higher

Applicants using this option must meet all of the following requirements, and should review the requirements prior to submitting an application. The requirements include the following:

- Possession of an eligible degree with an eligible grade point average (GPA)
- Successful completion of an examination in physiology, hygiene and substance abuse issues
- Successful completion of a 24-hour introduction to teaching course

Requirements:

1. Applicants must submit the following:
 - a) An official, sealed copy of their transcript(s) for a bachelor's degree or higher in a Department-approved subject area for the certificate. Applicants must have completed at least 30 credits in a coherent sequence of courses in the subject area from a regionally accredited college or university. Examples of eligible subject areas include the following:
 - *Optometry*
 - b) The applicant's GPA must be 2.75 or higher. Applicants with a bachelor's degree or higher who graduate on or after September 1, 2004, with a GPA that is below 2.75 in a four-year degree program, but at least 2.50 when a GPA of 4.00 equals an A grade, are eligible to apply for the career and technical education certificate by submitting evidence of a minimum of two years (4,000 hours) of full-time employment or part-time employment as per the requirements of 1(a) – (c) in **PART D**, below.
2. Applicants must pass an examination in physiology, hygiene and substance abuse issues pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9-5.9, including the effects of narcotics and alcohol. The examination is administered at the county offices of education. In lieu of this

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE

Licensure Requirement Details

OPTICAL TECHNICIAN #4119

Prepared by the Office Career and Technical Education

examination, the applicant may present basic military training or college level study in areas such as biology, health or nutrition. To obtain details regarding this examination, contact a county office of education: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/counties/>

3. Applicants must complete a 24-hour introduction to teaching course through an authorized provider, which serves as an introduction to the teaching profession for those individuals who are exploring career options. Topics include classroom management, lesson planning, introduction to New Jersey core curriculum content standards, and assessment of pupil progress. To obtain information regarding this requirement, read the section titled, “New Requirement for Certificate of Eligibility,” on the following website: <http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/advisories/applicant.htm>
4. Applicants must submit a current occupational license issued by the New Jersey State Board of New Jersey State Board of Ophthalmic Dispensers and Ophthalmic Technicians that is appropriate for the occupation and degree.
Website: http://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/opth/opth_rules.htm

Option 2: Associate’s degree

Applicants using this option must meet all of the following requirements, and should review the requirements prior to submitting an application. The requirements include the following:

- Possession of an eligible degree with an eligible grade point average (GPA)
- Possession and documentation of an eligible employment experience
- Successful completion of an examination in physiology, hygiene and substance abuse issues
- Successful completion of a 24-hour introduction to teaching course
- Possession of a current Ophthalmic Technician License

Requirements:

1. Applicants must submit the following:
 - a) An official, sealed copy of their transcript(s) for an associate’s bachelor’s degree in a Department-approved subject area for the certificate. Applicants must have completed at least 30 credits in a coherent sequence of courses in the subject area from a regionally accredited college or university. Examples of eligible subject areas include the following:
 - *Ophthalmic Science Technology*
 - b) Applicants with a GPA that is below 2.75 cannot apply for a certificate using their degree. In such cases, applicants must apply in accordance with the requirements of **Part D**, below.
2. Applicants using an associate’s degree must also submit evidence of a minimum of two years (4,000 hours) of full-time or part-time employment in an eligible occupational area following the requirements of 1(a) – (c) in Part D.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE

Licensure Requirement Details

OPTICAL TECHNICIAN #4119

Prepared by the Office Career and Technical Education

3. Applicants must pass an examination in physiology, hygiene and substance abuse issues pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9-5.9, including the effects of narcotics and alcohol. The examination is administered at the county offices of education. In lieu of this examination, the applicant may present basic military training or college level study in areas such as biology, health or nutrition. To obtain details regarding this test, contact a county office of education: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/counties/>
4. Applicants must complete a 24-hour introduction to teaching course through an authorized provider, which serves as an introduction to the teaching profession for those individuals who are exploring career options. Topics include classroom management, lesson planning, introduction to New Jersey core curriculum content standards, and assessment of pupil progress. To obtain information regarding this requirement, read the section titled, "New Requirement for Certificate of Eligibility," on the following website: <http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/advisorics/applicant.htm>
5. Applicants must submit a copy of a current Ophthalmic Technician License as described in **PART B**, above.

PART D: APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE USING EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

Applicants using this option must meet all of the following requirements, and should review the requirements prior to submitting an application. The requirements include the following:

- Possession and documentation of eligible employment experience*
- Successful completion of an examination in physiology, hygiene and substance abuse
- Successful completion of a basic skills assessment (PRAXIS I[®] exams)
- Successful completion of a 24-hour introduction to teaching course
- Possession of a current Ophthalmic Technician License

***NOTICE:** The New Jersey Department of Education uses the federal Occupational Information Network (O*NET) as its standard for determining eligible employment experience. O*NET lists the following additional applicable job titles for the **Optical Technician Career and Technical Education Certificate #4119**: *Ophthalmic Laboratory Technicians, Optical Lab Technician, Optical Technician, Surfacing Technician, Finishing Lab Technician, Lens Grinder and Polisher, Optical Lab Technician, Grinder, Edger Technician, Line Operator, and Polisher.*

Requirements:

1. Applicants must submit evidence of at least four years (8,000 hours) of eligible employment in one or more of the job titles identified above.
 - a) The eligible employment experience must be within 10 years of the date of the application submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education. Employment experience that is older than 10 years will not be accepted.
 - b) The eligible employment experience must be documented by the applicant's employer(s) using the Department of Education's Statement of Employment Experience form. If the applicant's eligible employment experience was obtained

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE

Licensure Requirement Details

OPTICAL TECHNICIAN #4119

Prepared by the Office Career and Technical Education

from more than one employer during the period of time for which eligible hours will be calculated, then a separate Statement of Employment Experience form must be completed by each employer. Employment experience submitted in any other format will not be accepted. Applicants may download the Statement of Employment Experience form from the Department of Education's website at the following link: http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/forms/voc_employer_experience.pdf

- c) The employer(s) completing a Statement of Employment Experience form(s) will comment on the applicant's work performance and safety practices for the following general occupational competencies as identified in the O*NET Job Description for this occupation, as follows:

TASKS:

- *Adjust lenses and frames in order to correct alignment.*
- *Mount, secure, and align finished lenses in frames or optical assemblies, using precision hand tools.*
- *Mount and secure lens blanks or optical lenses in holding tools or chucks of cutting, polishing, grinding, or coating machines.*
- *Shape lenses appropriately so that they can be inserted into frames.*
- *Assemble eyeglass frames and attach shields, nose pads, and temple pieces, using pliers, screwdrivers, and drills.*
- *Inspect lens blanks in order to detect flaws, verify smoothness of surface, and ensure thickness of coating on lenses.*
- *Clean finished lenses and eyeglasses, using cloths and solvents.*
- *Select lens blanks, molds, tools, and polishing or grinding wheels, according to production specifications.*
- *Examine prescriptions, work orders, or broken or used eyeglasses in order to determine specifications for lenses, contact lenses, and other optical elements.*
- *Set dials and start machines to polish lenses, or hold lenses against rotating wheels in order to polish them manually.*

Applicants will attach the above list of tasks and tools to the Statement of Employment Experience form(s) prior to submitting the form(s) to an employer(s) for completion. Based upon the O*NET Information page 51-9083.00 - Ophthalmic Laboratory Technicians: O*NET Website:

<http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/51-9083.00>

2. Applicants must pass an examination in physiology, hygiene and substance abuse issues pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 6A:9-5.9*, including the effects of narcotics and alcohol. The examination is administered at the county offices of education. In lieu of this examination, the applicant may present basic military training or college level study in areas such as biology, health or nutrition. To obtain details regarding this test, contact a county office of education: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/counties/>
3. Applicants must pass the PRAXIS I® basic skills tests*, including the following:
 - Praxis Pre-professional Skills Test Reading (#10710)
 - Praxis Pre-professional Skills Test Writing (#20720)

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE

Licensure Requirement Details

OPTICAL TECHNICIAN #4119

Prepared by the Office Career and Technical Education

➤ Praxis Pre-professional Skills Test Mathematics (#10730)

For more information regarding the PRAXIS I[®] basic skills tests, visit the “New Jersey: Praxis Test Requirements” page of the Employment Testing Service (ETS) website at the following link: <http://www.ets.org/praxis/nj>. Scroll to the bottom of the page to “Career and Technical Education.” The three required tests are in the column to the right. Test preparation information and materials are also available from ETS. On the webpage, go to the “In This Section” selection in the upper left-hand corner and click on “For Test Takers.” Select the PRAXIS I[®] Pre-Professional Skills Test (PPST) link, which goes to the PRAXIS I[®] Overview page. Click on the light blue “Prepare for the Test” tab. Select one of the three PRAXIS I[®] tests. Each link goes to a page that contains free test prep information as well as test guides that may be purchased.

***NOTICE:** Applicants who have completed a college degree (two-year, four-year or higher) in any subject area, regardless of GPA, are not required to take the PRAXIS I[®] tests.

4. Applicants must complete a 24-hour introduction to teaching course through an authorized provider, which serves as an introduction to the teaching profession for those individuals who are exploring career options. Topics include classroom management, lesson planning, introduction to New Jersey core curriculum content standards, and assessment of pupil progress. To obtain information regarding this requirement, read the section titled, “New Requirement for Certificate of Eligibility,” on the following website: <http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/advisories/applicant.htm>
5. Applicants must submit a copy of a current Ophthalmic Technician License as described in **PART B**, above.

PART E: APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE USING SELF-EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

Currently, self-employment experience is not an available option for this teaching certificate. Individuals must apply using the requirements found in **PART C, Option II** or **PART D**, above.

PART F: OTHER CREDENTIALS

Individuals who possess a degree and/or employment or self-employment experience not listed on this worksheet may submit their degree and/or employment or self-employment experience along with an application for a career and technical education certificate to the Department of Education, which will review the submission in order to determine eligibility. There is a fee associated with this service. However, the Department of Education does not guarantee that credentials submitted will be accepted by the Department of Education as satisfying the requirements for a career and technical education certificate. For more information, visit the Office of Licensure and Credentials homepage at <http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/>

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE

Licensure Requirement Details

OPTICAL TECHNICIAN #4119

Prepared by the Office Career and Technical Education

PART G: MILITARY SERVICE/TROOPS TO TEACHERS

Individuals with military service may have obtained qualifying employment experience, education, and/or training during their military service via the New Jersey Troops to Teachers program. The Troops to Teachers program (TTT) assists eligible military personnel with the transition to a new career as public school teachers. The New Jersey TTT office will provide participants with counseling and assistance regarding certification requirements, routes to state teacher certification and employment leads. For information, contact the New Jersey Department of Education Troops to Teachers office at 800-680-0884 or e-mail ttnj@doe.state.nj.us
New Jersey Troops to Teachers Website: <http://www.nj.gov/njded/ttnj>

PART H: ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A TEACHING JOB IN NEW JERSEY?

Visit NJHire today, the New Jersey Department of Education's free education recruitment website. NJ HIRE Website: <http://www.njhire.com>