

TPA EDUCATION REQUIREMENT – BOARD APPROVED 10-HOUR MANDATORY COURSE

To maintain therapeutic certification effective July 1, 2020, all TPA certified optometrists are required to take a 10-hour Board approved course and provide documentation to the Board. To date, the Board has only approved courses offered by these 2 sponsors, the Maryland Optometric Association (MOA) and the Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. The MOA has offered 2 in-person courses that were completely filled. However, they will offer the 10-hour course online beginning in December 2019. In addition, the Wilmer Institute will offer a 10-hour in-person course on March 1, 2020. The time, location and cost are TBD. There are no other courses that meet Board approval.

Any TPA certified optometrist who takes the required course and documentation has been submitted to the Board, can practice at the expanded scope with the new authorities as stated in the new law effective March 1, 2020. Failure to take the required course by July 1, 2020 will result in an automatic licensure status downgrade to DPA. Check the Board's website for updates regarding the course offerings.