Overview of requirements for Dispensing Opticians

Generally states require a training program and apprenticeship, along with an exam. Variation in this occupation comes from length of time required in training and apprenticeship. Variation is also found in some states not requiring licensure at all, or only requiring licensure in some years.

A word of caution: the line between apprenticeships and training can be murky at times. Requirements are recorded as apprenticeships only when the word “apprenticeship” is explicitly used. Research assistants were instructed to capture detail on requirements where it might be helpful in comments. “Conditions” columns signify when supervision or content requirements exist.