

Editorial • Big News from the Optometric Extension Program Foundation

Eric Hussey, OD • Spokane, Washington

Certification

We are thrilled to announce that after almost 100 years of having the privilege of providing postgraduate education on behavioral neuro-optometry, we now offer you the option to become a fully certified behavioral neuro-optometrist and add the professional designation of COEP behind your name!

Prerequisite to becoming OEPF certified as an optometrist is to have completed all four OEPF Clinical Curriculum courses. The certification process is an online process, with questions based on the material from all four Clinical Curriculum courses. The therapist's certification is based on material from the three Clinical Curriculum courses in which they can participate. Candidates must score a minimum of 80% on the questions in order to succeed in this certification. The system allows candidates to retake the test one time should they fail to achieve 80% on the first attempt without having to re-submit the application.

This is a great opportunity to showcase your credentials and to take your career to the next level with a postgraduate OEPF Clinical Curriculum course certificate in behavioral neuro-optometry!

After taking the postgraduate OEPF Clinical Curriculum courses, you have learned the latest techniques and technologies in behavioral optometry, including advanced diagnostic and treatment methods and the latest research in the field. We are committed to updating all of our courses and grids continuously. You have also had the opportunity to work with experienced optometrists and gain hands-on experience in real-world clinical settings that you can apply in your practice. You will want to showcase that experience and professional knowledge to your patients and colleagues.

Rewards: after successfully completing the certification, you can add our credentials behind your name (COEP for doctors and COEP-T for therapists), and we give you a free map listing on our Find My Doctor map on our website, allowing you to be found with your specialty and recognized for your qualifications. We will include you in our general marketing outreach and showcase the validity of your postgraduate expertise and qualification.

For more information please go to:

<https://www.oepf.org/oepf-certification-for-therapists/>

<https://www.oepf.org/oepf-certification-for-optometrists/>

ICBO

We are also very excited to announce that in preparation for the 9th International Congress of Behavioural Optometry, we are making an open call for speakers to present at the meeting, taking place from 14-18 August, 2024 in Ottawa, Canada. Talks can range from 30 minutes to two hours! We are co-hosting ICBO with Vision Therapy Canada and are working closely with our partner organizations worldwide.

Every four years, we strive to bring together an educational and information-sharing conference for a community of like-minded organizations that believes that in working together, we are stronger in supporting the behavioural optometry and vision therapy community worldwide. We postponed this Congress by two years because of the pandemic, but we are back and eager to meet again!

Further details about ICBO can be found at <https://www.oepf.org/icbo-international-outreach>

The deadline for speaker interest is April 8, 2023; accessible via the following link:

<https://form.jotform.com/230174638987065>