

**Revised As of
August 2005**

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
OF THE
FLORIDA OPTOMETRIC CCE**

**ARTICLE I
Name and Definition**

The name of this Committee is Florida Optometric CCE, hereinafter referred to as the "Committee", or "FOCCE". It is a voluntary, nonprofit, unincorporated committee of individual optometrists and others, and is not affiliated with any political party. The Committee is an independent, autonomous organization, and is not a branch or subsidiary of any national or other political committee or committee of continuous existence.

**ARTICLE II
Purposes**

The purposes of the Committee are:

- (1) To promote and strive for the improvement of government by encouraging and stimulating optometrists and others to take a more active and effective part in governmental affairs.
- (2) To encourage optometrists and others to understand the nature and actions of their government, as to important political issues, and as to the records of officeholders and candidates for elective office.
- (3) To assist optometrists and others in organizing themselves for more effective political action and in carrying out their civic responsibilities.
- (4) To do any and all things necessary or desirable for the attainment of the purposes stated above.

**ARTICLE III
Memberships, Dues and Contributions**

Section 1 - Members

Memberships shall be available to optometrists, optometry students, paraoptometric, their spouses, members of their immediate family, businesses owned or operated by optometrists, businesses involved in the manufacture, sale,

or distribution of optometric equipment or supplies, businesses which provide services to optometrists and optometric organizations, local optometric societies, and other classifications established by the Board. The Board of Directors is authorized to establish additional categories of membership.

Section 2 - Candidates for Membership

Candidates for membership shall be subject to the payment of dues annually pursuant to Section 3.

Section 3 - Dues

Annual FOCCE dues shall be:

Student Membership	\$10
Paraoptometric	\$25
New Optometrist	\$50
(up to 3 years after graduation)	
Regular Membership	\$100 minimum
Business Membership	\$250 minimum
Society Membership	\$500 minimum
Society Plus Membership	\$1000 minimum

Section 4 - Contributions

Contributions to FOCCE shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Directors and such funds shall be disbursed at its discretion in furtherance of the stated purposes of this organization.

At least twenty-five percent (25%) of contributions to this Committee must be funded from FOCCE membership dues pursuant to Section 3.

ARTICLE IV Directors

Section 1 - Duties

The management of the FOCCE shall be vested in a Board of Directors which shall have general supervision and control over the affairs of the Committee and shall establish and carry out all policies and activities of the Committee. Board members shall serve without compensation.

Section 2 - Composition

The Board of Directors shall consist of no less than five (5) individuals, each of whom shall be either a member of FOCCE in his/her individual capacity or a member in good standing of a local optometric society which itself is a member of FOCCE. The individuals shall be dues-paying members of the Florida Optometric Association and shall be appointed by the President of the Florida Optometric Association.

Section 3 - Terms of Office

Members of the Board of Directors shall serve for a term of two (2) years. Board members shall be limited to no more than five full terms of two (2) years, or eleven (11) years cumulatively. Designation of Board members to terms that would exceed eleven (11) years are prohibited.

Section 4 - Vacancies

The President of the Florida Optometric Association shall appoint a member to fill a vacancy on the Board for the unexpired term.

ARTICLE V Officers

Section 1 - Designations, Election, Terms

The officers of the Committee shall be a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and a Secretary-Treasurer. The officers, except for the Chairman who is designated by the President of the Florida Optometric Association, shall be elected by the Board of Directors from among the remaining members of the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting. Officers shall serve one (1) year terms. Except as is provided in Section 3 of Article IV, there is no limit on the number of terms of office that a member may serve.

Section 2 - The Chairman

The Chairman shall be the chief executive officer of the Committee and shall be an ex officio member of all committees. The Chairman shall preside at meetings of the Board of Directors. The Chairman shall appoint all chairmen and members of committees subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 3 - The Vice-Chairman

The Vice-Chairman shall perform such duties as required to assist the Chairman in the performance of duties, and shall assume the office of Chairman in the event of a vacancy in that office and shall serve until a member of FOCCE is appointed by the President of the Florida Optometric Association to fill the vacancy. In the absence of the Chairman, or at the Chairman's request, the Vice-Chairman shall preside at meetings of the Board of Directors.

Section 4 - The Secretary-Treasurer

The Secretary-Treasurer shall perform such duties as customarily performed by the Secretary-Treasurer of a committee of this nature as prescribed by law or by the Board of Directors. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be the custodian of the funds of the Committee. The Secretary-Treasurer shall collect all dues and other funds of the organization and shall disburse all monies of the Committee in accordance with the instructions of the Board of Directors. The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep full and accurate accounts, submit a proposed annual budget to the Board and thereafter enforce its terms, present financial statements, and prepare, sign and file all reports to governmental authorities required by law or directed to be filed by the Board of Directors. The Secretary-Treasurer shall insure that an accurate record of all FOCCE meetings and a decision with respect to expenditures made is kept and copies of such meeting minutes are kept on file. The Secretary-Treasurer shall insure that the correspondence of the Committee is handled promptly and that the Committee complies with requirements of all laws pertaining to political committees and committees of continuous existence.

ARTICLE VI Meetings

Section 1 - Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held during the Annual Meeting of the Florida Optometric Association.

Section 2 - Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be called by the Chairman on his own initiative or upon the written request of the two remaining members of the Board.

Section 3 - Notice of Meetings

All meetings shall be preceded by at least 7 days written notice to all members of the Board unless waiver of such notice is reflected in the minutes.

Section 4 - Quorum

Two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5 - Voting

Except as provided elsewhere in these bylaws, every question which shall come before the Board of Directors or its committees shall be decided by a majority vote of the voting members present. A majority vote via fax or electronic mail shall be considered a valid vote.

ARTICLE VII Committees

The FOCCE shall have such committees as the Board of Directors determines are necessary and desirable for carrying out its purposes and objectives. The Chairman shall appoint the committee chairman and members subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII Books, Records, and Finances

Section 1 - Books and Records

The Committee shall keep accurate books and records of account. At the direction of the Board, the Committee's books of account shall be audited. The auditor shall be named by the Chairman with approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 2 - Deposits

The funds of the Committee shall be deposited to the credit of the Committee in such banks or other depositories as the Board of Directors may select.

ARTICLE IX
Dissolution of Committee

The Committee may be dissolved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members of the Board of Directors. In the event the Committee is dissolved, the assets of the Committee shall be distributed, after payment of just debts, to an organization to be determined by the Board of Directors, provided such organization is qualified for federal income tax exemption under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE X
Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws

This Constitution and Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed and a new Constitution and Bylaws may be adopted by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members of the Board of Directors, provided that at least thirty (30) days written notice is given of the intention to alter, amend or repeal or to adopt a new Constitution and Bylaws at such meeting.

ARTICLE XI
Policies and Procedures

Policies and Procedures may be adopted by a majority vote of the Board present at any duly constituted meeting. Such Policies and Procedures may be amended in the same manner as amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws.