

OOA DUES INFORMATION

Full member dues are roughly \$155 a month, or about the cost of a contact lens exam.

OOA membership dues include OOA, AOA, and regional Zone fees.

ASCENDING DUES

Member ODs within their first five years of graduation take advantage of the ascending dues schedule.

Members in their first full year following graduation pay roughly 15% of combined AOA and OOA total dues.

The ascending dues schedule progresses to roughly 30% for the second full year following graduation, and then 55% and 77% for the third and fourth years respectively. Members begin paying full dues in their fifth year following graduation.

AUTOMATIC DUES PAYMENT (ADP) PLAN

The ADP Plan allows member ODs to divide their combined AOA/OOA annual dues into monthly payments automatically deducted from their credit/debit card or checking account. The standard ADP cycle runs June–May. Altered plans are available for members who enroll mid-cycle.

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I love using ADP to pay my dues. It saves both me and the OOA time and cost. It's easier to budget small payments than one lump sum. Plus, I don't have to worry about re-enrolling; I know my membership is taken care of each year.

Drusilla Grant OD, 1981 grad

Visit www.ooa.org for further information.

MISSION OF THE OOA

The Ohio Optometric Association serves its members and their patients by advocating for the profession to the public and policymakers, promoting the importance of and access to comprehensive eye care, and providing meaningful resources that strengthen professional viability.



The OOA divides the state into 12 regions, or zones, each led by a volunteer member, the Zone Governor. Zones hold regular meetings throughout the year. Go to www.ooa.org for a current listing of meetings.

OOA CONGRESS

The OOA holds its annual business meeting, OOA Congress, in conjunction with the EastWest Eye Conference. At Congress, members elect the board of trustees and discuss major issues facing optometry. With the exception of Post Grad, Retired, and Associate members, all members in attendance may vote. Every member is invited to attend and debate important issues.

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OHIO
OPTOMETRIC
ASSOCIATION

MEMBER GUIDE

ADVOCACY AWARENESS RESOURCES

OOA MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

The OOA offers several different categories of membership; contact info@ooa.org for further information.

ACTIVE MEMBER OD working an average of 25 hours or more per week.

PARTIAL PRACTICE MEMBER OD working an average of 24 hours or less per week. Pays discounted annual dues based on weekly work hours.

OPTOMETRIC EDUCATOR MEMBER OD educator working full-time in school-related activities such as teaching, research, or administration. Pays educator rate discounted annual dues.

LIFE MEMBER OD who has accumulated 45+ years of membership in the AOA. Pays NO annual dues.

POST GRADUATE MEMBER OD in residency program or enrolled full-time in a graduate program. OOA covers AOA annual dues obligation.

RETIRED WITH BENEFITS MEMBER OD aged 55 or older that is no longer engaged in compensated optometric-related activities. Pays highly discounted annual dues. Continues to accumulate years toward Life membership.

RETIRED MEMBER OD aged 55 or older that is no longer engaged in compensated optometric-related activities. Pays NO annual dues and does NOT have access to member advantages. Does NOT accumulate years toward Life membership.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER An OD or non-OD who does not meet the criteria of other membership categories (i.e., an OD who affiliates with a different state yet wants to continue to participate in Ohio optometry. Pays highly discounted annual dues and has limited access to member advantages.

ADVOCACY

WORKING TO PROTECT, ADVANCE, AND MODERNIZE THE PROFESSION.

The OOA represents optometry at the Statehouse and educates lawmakers on the profession and the importance of comprehensive eye care for all Ohioans.

The OOA works to ensure legislation advances the profession and patient needs. Recent successes include the repeal of the state sales tax on prescriptive eyewear and the passage of vision insurance reforms.

Access to the latest legislative updates and [Statehouse Bill Tracking Report](#)

[OOPAC—Ohio Optometric Political Action Committee](#)

OOPAC's goal is to help elect pro-optometry candidates for office, regardless of party affiliation.

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*I can't stress enough the importance of OOA membership. There's so much changing with new technology and innovations. We must have a strong voice and be proactive to modernize the profession and protect our patients. Our success is a direct result of strong membership that represents the vast majority of optometrists in Ohio. More is on the horizon. **You can't afford not to be a member.***

Michael Earley OD, PhD, 1988 grad

AWARENESS

PROMOTING THE IMPORTANCE OF COMPREHENSIVE EYE CARE.

[REALEYES PROGRAM](#)

- Each year the Realeyes Program educates over 100,000 school-aged children from PreK through high school on eye health & safety and the importance of comprehensive eye care.
- The new **Journey Through An Exam** self-guided curriculum is available to all members for use in waiting and exam rooms.

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This program has been a great achievement for optometry exposure statewide. I have heard so much positivity surrounding Realeyes! Volunteering makes a huge difference for everyone involved.

Ben Doering OD, 2017 grad

[Think About Your Eyes \(TAYE\) National Public Awareness Campaign](#)

www.thinkaboutyoureyes.com

All OOA members are included on the TAYE doctor locator feature.

[iSee Program through the Ohio Optometric Foundation](#)

Provision of charitable eye care to Ohio school children.

[Vision Simulator Cards](#)

Available to members for use in their office and/or as community resources.

[OVP Student Loan Repayment Program](#)

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What other membership allows you to apply for a scholarship to aid in student loan repayment? The OOA has gone above and beyond to help graduates of our profession.

Tiffany Procaccini OD, MS, 2009 grad

RESOURCES

PROVIDING MEANINGFUL SUPPORT THAT STRENGTHENS PROFESSIONAL VIABILITY.

[Networking and Community Regional Zone Meetings, Young OD Events and Service Opportunities](#)

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As a member in a zone that is far from larger cities, continuing education can be difficult to attend. Our zone meetings often offer free CE and it has been great not to have to drive more than an hour to attend. It also doesn't hurt that dinner is usually provided!

Michael Miller OD, 2014 grad

[PERSPECTIVES](#)

The OOA's main communication tool updating members on all aspects of the association including legislative updates, third party information, and legal guidance.

[Member Pricing for Premier CE Opportunities](#) such as EastWest Destinations and the EastWest Eye Conference

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I love this member advantage! I get half of my yearly CE completed in my state at a discounted price. It is the best quality CE that I have encountered anywhere in the country.

Lindsay Florkey OD, MS, 2004 grad

[OOA Health Benefit Plan](#)

[OOA Retirement Solution: A Next Generation 401\(k\)](#)

[Legal Guidance and Contract Review](#)

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The OOA was the first place I went to have my contract reviewed. I received great advice and truly appreciated their expertise. Afterwards I felt much more confident signing for my first job.

Amber Mathias OD, MS, 2018 grad

[CSEYE HIPAA Billing/Coding Compliance](#)

[Third Party Bulletin](#)

[Disability Insurance](#)

[Professional Liability Insurance](#)

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When starting my career after residency, I was directed to the OOA member advantage for malpractice insurance. It saves hundreds of dollars every year and, to be honest, the coverage is better than other plans I had been quoted for.

Rachel LeFebvre OD, 2011 grad

[Merchant Processing Services](#)

[Workers Compensation Group Rating](#)

[Young OD Community](#)

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As an ICO graduate practicing in Ohio, I did not immediately know many optometrists in my area. The Young OD events have been a great way to meet other ODs in an informal and fun way.

Natalie McKee OD, 2012 grad

[AOA Member Publications](#) including AOA Focus and AOA First Look

[Group Purchasing Discounts](#) through AOA Excel®: Your Business Advantage

[AOA More—Qualified Clinical Data Registry \(QCDR\)](#)

[AOA “Find a Doctor” Online Directory](#)

[Eye to Eye Job Matching Service](#) (coming soon)

The OOA is partnering with The Ohio State University College of Optometry and its Alumni Society to provide job matching services to their members. Available May 2019.