NSCDO PLAR Registration Flow Chart

NSCDO
NOVA SCOTIA COLLEGE OF Dispensing Opticians

You want to work as an optician in Nova Scotia

Are you a registered optician in another Canadian province?

YES

Obtain a Letter of Good Standing from the province you are currently registered in. NOTE: you must still be registered with your home province to register

Are you an international applicant who has completed an Optician degree or program?

YES

Have you graduated from a Canadian accredited optician program?

YES

Apply for the NACOR Examination

NO

Complete a prior learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) application to determine if your education and experience are equivalent to Nova Scotia regulation. Once you have submitted the PLAR application and supporting documentation, the NSCDO will notify you of the next registration steps. The PLAR review takes between 3-6 months. You can find the registration form on the NSCDO website : link

- A document Assessment Fee of $225.00 (including tax)
- A completed registration form: link
- Transcripts, certificates and diplomas from educational institutions
- Proof of previous licensure
- Resume detailing previous or current opticianry experience. Dispensing Experience for each place of previous employment should be included in your resume.
- Letters of Reference from previous or current employers
- If English is second language, proof of English proficiency to a minimum level of 7 in speaking, writing, reading and listening through the Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB)
- Other supporting documentation such as credential assessment or short essay. Click here for details

1-2 weeks

The NSCDO will schedule you for Competency Gap Analysis (CGA) and an interview

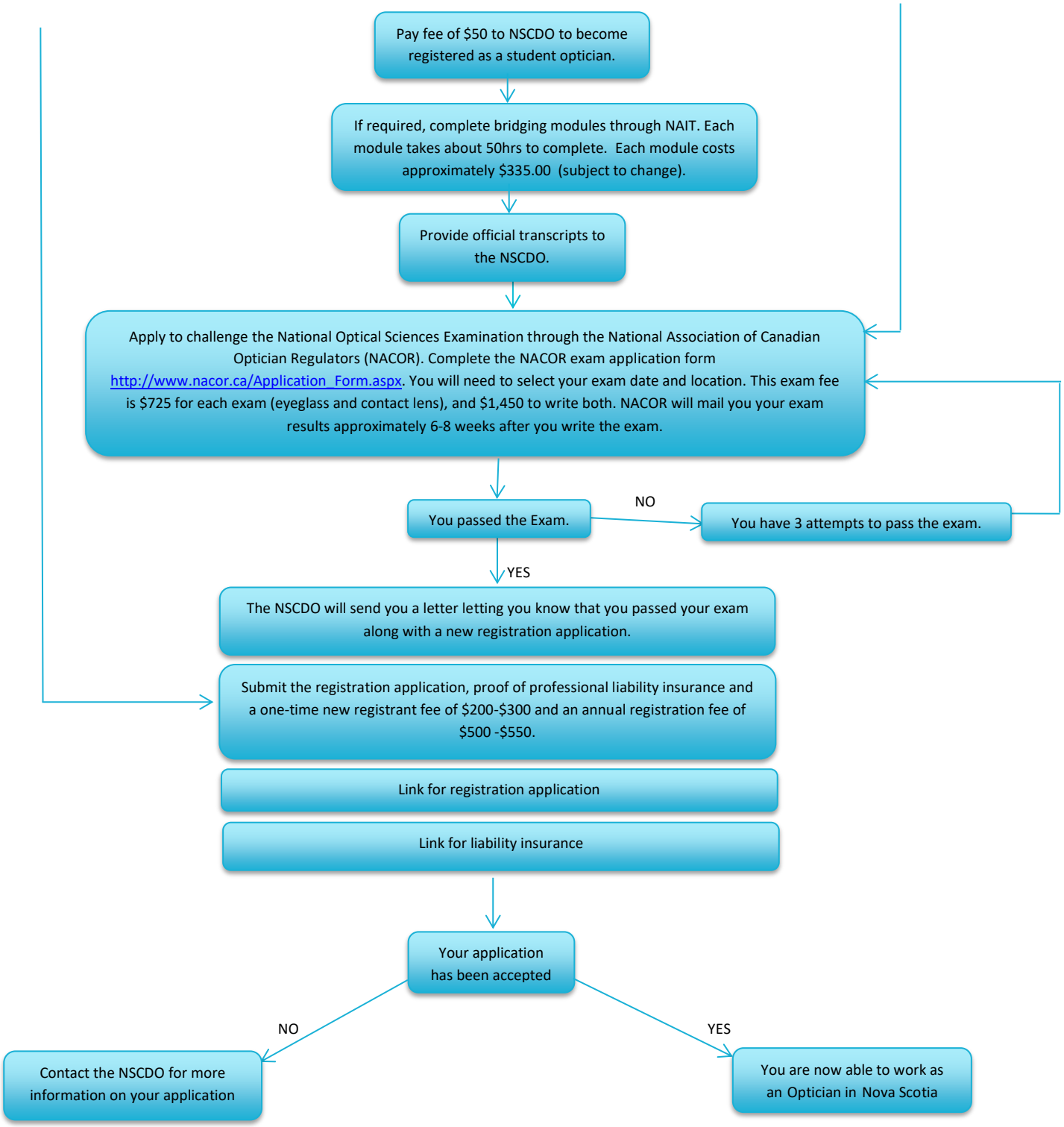
1-2 months

Take CGA (multiple choice assessment) up to 5hrs
And Interview: 3hrs
Pay fee of $685.00

1-3 months

Registration Committee reviews application

2-3 weeks

The decisions and reasons will be sent to the applicant outlining the Registration Committee's decision to assign bridging courses and/or work experience, send the applicant to the NACOR examination, or recommend the applicant enroll in a Canadian accredited optician program.

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