



Standard 13: Conflict of Interest

Applies to Opticianry

The College of Health and Care Professionals of BC was created on June 28, 2024 through the amalgamation of seven health regulatory colleges:

- College of Dietitians of British Columbia
- College of Occupational Therapists of British Columbia
- College of Optometrists of British Columbia
- College of Opticians of British Columbia
- College of Physical Therapists of British Columbia
- College of Psychologists of British Columbia
- College of Speech and Hearing Health Professionals of British Columbia

All current requirements for standards of clinical and ethical practice issued by the seven colleges remain in place upon amalgamation.

This document was created by the College of Opticians of British Columbia and will be updated to reflect the amalgamation.

Standard 13: Conflict of Interest

Related Standards of Practice

- Standard 1: Client-Centred Practice
- Standard 4: Cultural Safety, Cultural Humility, and Anti-Racism
- Standard 6: Professionalism
- Standard 12: Privacy and Confidentiality

Description

The optician recognizes, prevents, and takes action to resolve conflicts of interest—whether direct, potential, or perceived.

Expected Outcome

The client can expect that their optician will deliver services in the client's best interests and that conflicts of interest will be disclosed and managed.

Criteria

- 13.1 Ensure that financial and commercial practices do not compromise the client's safety or vision care needs.
- 13.2 Avoid, where possible—and manage, where necessary—any direct, potential, or perceived conflict of interest that is not in the best interests of the client.
- 13.3 Refuse to accept gifts, money, or other incentives from clients that may be perceived to affect client care, professional judgment, and/or trust in the profession.
- 13.4 Take steps to appropriately initiate, maintain, and terminate optician–client relationships throughout the course of care.
- 13.5 Where a conflict of interest is unavoidable, disclose the conflict to clients and others, as appropriate, and document in a complete, open, and timely manner how the conflict was managed.