

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Optometric Practice Act of 1987 is  
5 amended by adding Section 31 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 80/31 new)

7 Sec. 31. Administration of vaccines.

8 (a) A licensed optometrist may independently administer  
9 the COVID-19 vaccine upon the completion of appropriate  
10 training, as described in subsection (c). Vaccinations for  
11 COVID-19 shall be limited to patients 17 years of age and  
12 older.

13 (b) The optometrist shall administer the COVID-19 vaccine  
14 and must not delegate the administration to an assistant or  
15 any other person. Vaccination of a patient by an optometrist  
16 shall be documented in the patient's record and shall include:

17 (1) the vaccine administered;

18 (2) the site of injection of the vaccine;

19 (3) the name, dose, manufacturer, lot number, and  
20 beyond-use date of the vaccine;

21 (4) the name and address of the patient's primary  
22 health care provider named by the patient;

23 (5) a notation that the patient was presented with the

1 appropriate vaccine information statement (VIS) prior to  
2 the administration of each vaccine; and

3 (6) any adverse events that followed the vaccination.

4 (c) In order to initiate and administer an immunization  
5 described in subsection (b), an optometrist must:

6 (1) at a minimum, complete 4 hours of education in:

7 (i) an immunization training program endorsed by the  
8 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; (ii) the  
9 injections course approved by the National Board of  
10 Examiners in Optometry; or (iii) a course approved by the  
11 Department that provides equivalent training provided by  
12 an approved Continuing Education Sponsor. The training  
13 must include, at a minimum, hands-on injection technique,  
14 proper vaccine storage, clinic evaluation of indications  
15 and contraindications of vaccines, and the recognition and  
16 treatment of emergency reactions to vaccines, and the  
17 optometrist shall maintain that training;

18 (2) be certified in basic life support; and

19 (3) comply with all State and federal recordkeeping  
20 and reporting requirements, including providing  
21 documentation to the patient's primary care provider  
22 within 30 days of administering the vaccine and entering  
23 all patient level data on vaccines administered in the  
24 immunization data registry (I-Care) maintained by the  
25 Department of Public Health.

26 The Department, in its discretion, may exempt an

1 optometrist from the requirements of this subsection if the  
2 optometrist has completed the training required under a  
3 proclamation issued by the Secretary on March 24, 2021 to  
4 authorize licensed optometrists to administer COVID-19  
5 vaccines. An optometrist who is granted an exemption from the  
6 Department is required to maintain the training required by  
7 this subsection.

8 (d) An optometrist administering an immunization pursuant  
9 to this Section may also initiate and administer epinephrine  
10 or diphenhydramine by injection for the treatment of a severe  
11 allergic reaction to an immunization.

12 (e) As applicable to the State Medicaid program and other  
13 payers, a vaccine ordered and administered in accordance with  
14 this Section shall be covered and reimbursed at no less than  
15 the rate the vaccine is reimbursed when ordered and  
16 administered by a physician.

17 (f) The Department may adopt any rules necessary to  
18 implement this Section.

19 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
20 becoming law.