

1 21 NCAC 42D .0102 is adopted with changes as published in 37:22 NCR 2129-2130 as follows:

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3 **21 NCAC 42D .0102 ~~FUNCTION~~ OPTOMETRIC ASSISTANT; OPTOMETRIC TECHNICIAN**

4 (a) ~~For the purposes of this Rule, "paraoptometric personnel" means an optometric assistant, optometric technician,~~
5 ~~or similarly titled position who qualifies by training and experience to perform duties of an administrative, technical,~~
6 ~~or clinical nature and is directed and supervised by a licensed optometrist. Optometric assistants and optometric~~
7 ~~technicians are employees of an optometric practice or where optometry is practiced who have successfully completed~~
8 ~~the testing and certification process for Certified Paraoptometric Assistant and Certified Paraoptometric Technician~~
9 ~~respectively by the American Optometric Association.~~

10 (b) ~~Paraoptometric personnel shall perform his or her functions within the scope of his or her training, as directed by~~
11 ~~and assigned by an optometrist, so long as those functions are at the specific direction and under the supervision of~~
12 ~~the licensee. Optometric assistants and optometric technicians may be delegated duties and responsibilities of an~~
13 ~~administrative, technical, or clinical nature so long as such are within the scope of their education, training, experience,~~
14 ~~and certification, and so long as such activities are directed and appropriately supervised by a licensed optometrist.~~
15 ~~The supervising optometrist is responsible for all activities undertaken by the optometric assistant and optometric~~
16 ~~technician.~~

17 (c) ~~In practices or situations where there is no on-site optometrist present, an optometric technician must be present~~
18 ~~during all patient interactions with the remote optometrist.~~

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20 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-115.1(6); 90-117.5;*

21 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

22 *Readopted Eff. May 30, 1978;*

23 *Amended Eff. June 1, 1989; September 30, 1981;*

24 *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. May 23,*
25 *2015;*

26 *Amended Eff. March 1, 2023.*

27 *Amended Eff. December 1, 2023*