

It is understood that continuing education (CE) is the cornerstone of maintenance of professional excellence. All Canadian Orthoptic Council (COC) certified members must therefore be able to demonstrate their involvement in educational activities to maintain certification. This is assessed once every three years when members are required to submit details of their educational activities.

Whilst all educational activities are valuable, it is recognized that certain topics have greater relevance to orthoptics; these are termed *core* topics and greater emphasis is placed on these when assessing an individual's CE activities.

Core Subjects:

The following topics are considered core subjects for the purpose of CE credits.

- Ocular anatomy and neuroanatomy
- Principles of visual fields, including testing and analysis
- Sensory and motor physiology, including assessment of binocular vision
- Optics, including refractometry, diagnostic and therapeutic use of prisms and contact lenses
- Assessment of visual acuity, accommodation, and fixation
- Detection and treatment of amblyopia
- Clinical assessment of strabismus, including:
 - Diagnostic evaluation and measurement
 - Congenital and acquired comitant forms
 - Incomitant forms (including mechanical and innervation disorders)
 - Syndromes (eg. Duane, Brown, Moebius, Congenital Fibrosis)
 - Strabismus associated with systemic disorders (eg. Thyroid Eye Disease)
 - Neuro-ophthalmologic syndromes (eg. Myasthenia, Parinaud)
 - Orthoptic Management and treatments
 - Principles of strabismus surgery
 - Nystagmus
 - Eye movement evaluation and measurements including saccadic velocity recording and electromyography.
- Child development and learning disabilities, including dyslexia
- Low vision assessment and low vision aids
- Electrophysiology principles and techniques including VEP, ERG and EOG
- Principles of genetics and heritable ocular diseases
- Clinical research methods, including computers in medicine and medical writing.

Other topics in the scope of ophthalmology are recognized as beneficial to the practice of orthoptics; as such, CE credits for topics that are not listed as “core” will be credited as “non-core” CE credit.