Prospective applicants should contact the Company Licensing and Regulatory Compliance Section of the Bureau of Insurance about their intention to establish an optometric services plan in Virginia. By doing so, the applicant will have the opportunity to submit a more thorough and acceptable application.

1. Submit the appropriate application form (form attached), completed and signed along with a check payable to the Treasurer of Virginia for the $500 nonrefundable application fee.

2. The plan may be conducted by a group of optometrists through a nonstock corporation. Pursuant to §§ 38.2-4501, 4502 and 4504 of the Code of Virginia, submit to the Bureau of Insurance a copy of the applicant’s organizational document(s), i.e. articles of incorporation with any amendments. Information pertaining to this process may be obtained at www.scc.virginia.gov/clk.

3. Submit a copy of the entity’s bylaws, certified by its Secretary.

4. Submit the name, address and official position of each member of the governing body and any person with authority to manage or establish policy. For each individual, provide an NAIC Biographical Affidavit. The Biographical Affidavit must be certified by an independent third party that has conducted a comprehensive review of the applicant’s background and has certified that the Biographical Affidavit has no inaccurate or conflicting information and no material omissions. NAIC Biographical Affidavits must be current and shall not be signed by the affiant more than one year prior to the date the application is filed. The form can be accessed through the NAIC’s website at www.naic.org/industry_ucaa.htm.

5. Submit a current financial statement showing a balance sheet as of recent date, signed by at least two principal officers before a Notary Public. Describe any investments or property shown. Such a description should include a list of the securities owned; a list of deposits with the banks stating the name, address, and amount deposited in each bank; and a general list of other properties owned. The statement must show an adequate amount for operations.
6. Submit projected income statements, balance sheets, and cash flow statements by quarter for one year past breakeven and at least for three years into the future. Fully document all important assumptions, including but not limited to premium rates, levels of enrollment, utilization rates, factors determining health care expenses, administrative expenses, and future sources of financing. A plan must demonstrate an ability to adequately finance its operations and to maintain an adequate minimum capital and surplus at all times as a condition of licensure. “Non-agency” plans should note specific requirements for contingency reserves pursuant to § 38.2-4504 E of the Code of Virginia.

7. Provide a written description of proposed method of operation manner of doing business, including information on (a) the delivery system, (b) management information systems, (c) internal controls, (d) the marketing of the plan, and (e) the management team, along with any contract for these services. The description must include a discussion on whether the plan is an agency or nonagency plan.

8. Submit a copy of each subscriber contract(s), evidence(s) of coverage, group contract(s) endorsement(s), and member application form(s), which the plan proposes to use in Virginia. Include a description of the premium rates to be charged for each contract and the services made available in consideration of such payments of premiums. An actuarial justification of the rates must be included.

9. Submit a copy of all Participation Agreements and the rates of compensation for providers of optometric services along with a list of all providers entering into such agreements.

10. Include a description of geographical areas (names of counties and cities) to be served. More than one plan may be licensed for the same geographical area only under certain conditions as listed in § 38.2-4515 of the Code of Virginia.

11. Provide a description of insurance policies to protect the plan and/or its subscribers. Types of coverages should at least include (a) excess and stop/loss, (b) fidelity bonding, (c) general liability, (d) professional liability (malpractice), and (e) insolvency coverage.

12. Include a description of the sources of funding mechanisms for the optometric plan. Include any funding agreements in place or other mechanisms such as lines of credit or guarantees to support the viability of the optometric plan.
NOTE:

1. If the applicant is to be a Virginia Corporation, it must secure a Certificate of Incorporation from the Clerk's Office, State Corporation Commission, (804) 371-9733. This may be done by filing Articles of Incorporation and paying the necessary fees. Information pertaining to this process may be obtained at www.scc.virginia.gov/clk. Copies of the Certificate of Incorporation must be filed with the application.

2. An Optometric Services Plan organized in another state which is subject to substantially similar regulation and licensing may also be licensed in Virginia. The plan should file evidence of regulation and licensing with the Bureau of Insurance. If the regulation of the state of domicile is deemed to be substantially similar, the foreign plan will be notified. The plan should then secure a Certificate of Authority from the Clerk's Office of the Commission and make application for license under items 1 through 12 above. Information may be obtained at www.scc.virginia.gov/clk. This is in addition to the license received from the Bureau of Insurance.

3. If the Optometric Services Plan’s operations meet the criteria of a managed care health insurance plan ("MCHIP") as defined in § 38.2-5800 of the Code of Virginia, please document compliance with the provisions of Chapter 58 of Title 38.2 of the Code of Virginia by submitting items required for the establishment of a MCHIP, which may be found at www.scc.virginia.gov/boi/co/lic_reg.aspx.

Bureau Contact

Applicants should direct all questions regarding the requirements for licensing to the following person:

Andy R. Delbridge, Supervisor
Company Licensing and Regulatory Compliance
State Corporation Commission
Virginia Bureau of Insurance
P.O. Box 1157
Richmond, VA 23218
Telephone: (804) 371-9616
Facsimile: (804) 371-9511
Andy.Delbridge@scc.virginia.gov
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION, BUREAU OF INSURANCE
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219

APPLICATION FOR LICENSE IN VIRGINIA

____________________________________
(Name of Plan)

____________________________________  ______________________________________
(NAIC Number)                         (FEIN number)

____________________________________
(Address)

hereby applies for a Virginia license to operate a plan issuing contracts for future

( ) Hospitalization Services
( ) Medical Services
( ) Surgical Services
( ) Dental Services
( ) Optometric Services
( ) Legal Services

Number of subscribers as of January 1 of the current year __________

Names and addresses of all hospitals, physicians, dentists, optometrists or attorneys participating in plan:

_________________________________________
_____________________________________
_____________________________________

Geographical area requested by plan:

_____________________________________
_____________________________________
_____________________________________

____________________________________
(Date)                                (Signature of Officer)

____________________________________
(Title)