



## ADVISORY NO. CM - 2

[Please file in your ACO Practitioner Manual in the “Advisories” Section - Replaces Advisory CM-1]

**Date:** January 1, 2008

**Subject:** CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP

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The Alberta College of Optometrists has two categories of membership:

- [a] Regulated Members
  - [i] Regulated Practitioners
  - [ii] Courtesy Practitioners
- [b] Other Members
  - [i] Externs
  - [ii] Interns
  - [iii] Other Members

These membership categories are defined as follows:

- [a] **Regulated Member** – refers to a licensed optometrist who provides optometric services in Alberta and meets all the requirements of registration as an active practicing member in the province.
- [b] **Courtesy Member** – refers to a licensed optometrist who is registered as an optometrist in good standing in another jurisdiction and who requires registration in Alberta on a temporary basis for a specified purpose as approved by the Registrar. This individual must satisfy the Registrar of their competence to provide the services related to a specified purpose before becoming eligible for registration as a courtesy member for a period of up to one year from the date of registration.

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- [c] **Extern** – refers to an unregulated student of an accredited university optometry program, an unregulated student of a non-accredited optometry program; or, an unregulated graduate of a non-accredited optometry program who is currently enrolled in the International Optometric Bridging Program. All students must work under the supervision of a Regulated Member. Please refer to the “Internship and Externship Programs Advisory” for additional information about registration requirements for this category of membership.
  
- [d] **Intern** – refers to an unregulated graduate of an accredited university optometry program working under the supervision of a Regulated Member; or, an unregulated graduate of a non-accredited optometry program who has successfully completed the International Optometric Bridging Program working under the supervision of a Regulated Member. This category of membership is usually reserved for students who have graduated and are waiting to write the CSAO exam or have written the CSAO exam and are waiting for their results. Please refer to the “Internship and Externship Programs Advisory” for additional details and registration requirements for this category of membership.
  
- [e] **Other Members** – refers to individuals who wish to receive newsletters and other information as deemed appropriate by the ACO Council. It is envisioned that this category will include retired practitioners, specified individuals from other regulatory colleges or member associations, government members, members who receive the “outstanding achievement award” and any other individuals deemed appropriate by the ACO Council. The College Council will also approve these members, at a minimum, on a yearly basis.