



# AMERICAN BOARD OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

A Founding Member Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)

Contact the Executive Office:  
111 Presidential Boulevard, Suite 241  
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## Written Qualifying Examination Content Outline

Subject	Domain	Percentage Allocation on WQE Examination
<b>Lens and Cataract</b>	Isolated cataract	<b>12%</b>
	Cataract associated with other ocular disease/anomaly	
	Cataract associated with systemic disease and/or treatment	
	Cataract after previous ophthalmic procedure(s)	
	Aphakia and pseudophakia	
<b>Cornea, External Disease and Anterior Segment</b>	Infections	<b>13%</b>
	Immune-mediated diseases	
	Neoplasms	
	Toxic/Traumatic/Metabolic diseases	
	Ocular surface disorders	
	Dystrophies/Degenerations	
<b>Glaucoma</b>	Primary open-angle glaucoma	<b>13%</b>
	Primary angle-closure glaucoma	
	Secondary glaucomas	
	Glaucoma suspect/ocular hypertension	
<b>Neuro-Ophthalmology</b>	Visual loss	<b>10%</b>
	Diplopia/eye movement disorders	
	Pupil	
	Headache/pain	
	Systemic and CNS disease	
<b>Oculofacial, Plastics, and Orbit</b>	Eyelid and facial disorders	<b>10%</b>
	Lacrimal diseases	
	Orbital tumors and malformations	
	Orbital inflammation and infection	
	Eyelid, facial, and orbital trauma	

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<b>Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus</b>	Amblyopia	<b>11%</b>
	Anterior segment dysgenesis, pediatric glaucoma, developmental corneal and lens disorders	
	Uveitis and retinal disorders	
	Neuro-ophthalmic and orbital diseases	
	Strabismus	
	Ocular manifestations of systemic disease	
<b>Refractive Management and Optics</b>	Optics, instrumentation, and low vision	<b>8%</b>
	Refractive error, non-surgical	
	Refractive error, surgical	
<b>Retina, Vitreous, and Intraocular Tumors</b>	Macular diseases	<b>15%</b>
	Retinal vascular diseases	
	Vitreous and peripheral retinal abnormalities	
	Dystrophies and metabolic disorders	
	Trauma and intraocular foreign body	
Intraocular tumors		
<b>Uveitis</b>	Anterior uveitis	<b>8%</b>
	Intermediate uveitis	
	Non infectious Posterior and pan uveitis	
	Infectious uveitis and neoplastic masquerades	

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**Each question on the WQE will be from one of the subject areas above and will cover one of these four aspects of patient care:**

- Presentation (history, clinical exam, differential)
- Diagnostic Testing
- Management/ Outcomes/ Complications/ Prognosis
- Pathophysiology/ Basic Science/ Histology/ Epidemiology/ Risk Assessment

**Some questions may also cover components of one or more of the following:**

- Landmark studies
- General medicine aspects as related to ophthalmology
- Patient safety, quality improvement, risk management, and diagnostic error
- Ethics
- Pathology
- Communication and team-based care

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