

**RCW 18.195.040 Prescription not referring to contacts—
Verification of performance—Notice—Prescription time limit—Safety
notice—Noncompliance.** (1) If the patient chooses to purchase contact
lenses from an optician and the prescription is silent regarding
contact lenses, the optician shall contact the prescriber and request
a written prescription with a notation of "OK for contacts" or similar
language. However, if no evaluation for contact lenses had been done
during the eye examination, the prescriber may decline to approve the
prescription for contact lenses without further evaluation.

(2) If a patient chooses to purchase contact lenses from an
optician, the optician shall advise the patient, in writing, that a
prescriber is to verify the performance of the initial set of contact
lenses on the eyes within six months of the date of the eye
examination or the "OK for contacts" portion of the prescription will
be void. The patient shall be requested to sign the written advisement
and the signed document will be maintained as part of the patient's
records. If the patient declines to sign the document, it shall be
noted in the record.

(3) No practitioner may dispense contact lenses based on a
prescription that is over two years old.

(4) All fitters and dispensers of contact lenses shall distribute
safety pamphlets to their patients in order to improve consumer
decisions as well as health-related decisions.

(5) It is unprofessional conduct under chapter 18.130 RCW for a
practitioner to fail to comply with this section. [1994 c 106 s 4.]