

Optometry Advanced Procedures Annual Report

December 2026

RCW 18.54.800



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Office of Health Professions
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Executive Summary

[RCW 18.53.010](#) allows for the practice of advanced procedures for optometrists who have been issued an endorsement by the Department of Health (department). [RCW 18.54.800](#) requires optometrists with the advanced procedures endorsement to submit information to the board on the outcomes of every advanced procedure the optometrist completed in the previous year. The board is required to coordinate with the department to analyze and report on these outcomes, including any related complications or adverse events.

In 2024, the board adopted [WAC 246-851-515](#) with reporting requirements for advanced procedures authorized under [RCW 18.53.010 \(2\)](#) and developed an online reporting form. The reporting period ends December 31, 2028.

The department has collected data from the reports submitted in 2025. Based on these reports, a total of 28 advanced procedures were completed during 2025 and no adverse events were reported.

Background

In 2023, the legislature passed [Substitute Senate Bill \(SSB\) 5389](#), expanding the optometric scope of practice. The expanded scope, codified as [RCW 18.53.010\(2\)](#), allows for the practice of advanced procedures provided the optometrist has been issued an endorsement by the department.

[RCW 18.54.800](#) required the Board of Optometry (board) to develop a process for optometrists who have been issued the endorsement to submit information to the board on the outcomes, including any complications or adverse events, of every advanced procedure that the optometrist completed in the previous year. Additionally, the board, in coordination with the department, must analyze and report on the outcomes of the advanced procedures, to include any complications or adverse events related to the performance of advanced procedures.

In 2024 the board adopted [WAC 246-851-515](#), “License endorsement to perform advanced procedures.” Subsection (4) of the new rule states “A licensed optometrist shall report every advanced procedure authorized under [RCW 18.53.010 \(2\)](#) and include any complications or adverse events during their annual reporting period. The reporting period ends December 31, 2028.” The board has created an online reporting form for licensed optometrists who hold the endorsement to report all advanced procedures they perform.

Data Collection Process

Data Collection

The department, in coordination with the board, developed an online reporting form for licensed optometrists to report any advanced procedures. This form is embedded in the Healthcare Enforcement and Licensing Management System (HELMS). The department collected and analyzed the data from the reports submitted in 2025.

Data Presentation

This report provides the submitted data in table format. Based on this data:

- Seven (7) types of advanced procedures were itemized
- The total number of procedures were itemized
- The total number of adverse events were itemized

Table 1: Advanced Procedures

Type of Advanced Procedures RCW 18.53.010(2)i-vii	Number of Advanced Procedures completed WAC 246-851-515(4)	Number of Adverse Events Reported WAC 246-851-515(4)
Conjunctival procedures	11	0
Lash procedures	2	0
Lid procedures	9	0
Chalazia procedures	1	0
Lacrimal Procedures	2	0
Injections	0	0
Other procedures	3	0

Next Steps

The board, in coordination with the department, will analyze and report on the outcomes of the advanced procedures that were reported in 2026, as authorized in [RCW 18.53.010](#), for the December 2027 report. The report will include any complications or adverse events related to the performance of the advanced procedures in the 2026 reporting period. The data will be aggregated and will not identify any individual provider, facility, or patient and will not reveal any confidential information.

The board will continue to provide the same online reporting form for licensed optometrists to use to report any advanced procedures.

