

Financial Assistance Information



Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry

6110 Executive Boulevard, Suite 510
Rockville, Maryland 20852
Phone: (301) 231-5944
Fax: (301) 770-1828

www.opted.org

Many optometry schools offer low-cost care to people willing to be treated by supervised students. They may also provide free care to people who join research studies.

Chronic Disease Fund

6900 N. Dallas Parkway, Suite 200
Plano, TX 75024
Toll-free Patient Info: (877) 968-7233
Main: (972) 608-7141

www.cdfund.org

Chronic Disease Fund® is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization helping patients with chronic disease, cancers or life-altering conditions obtain the expensive medications they need.

Elected Official

Check with your state elected official.

EyeCare America®

The Foundation of the American
Academy of Ophthalmology
P.O. Box 429098
San Francisco, CA 94142-9098
Phone: (877) 887-6327

Fax: (415) 561-8567

www.eyecareamerica.org

EyeCare America provides eye care to US citizens and legal residents through volunteer ophthalmologists (Eye M.D.s) at no cost to those who qualify. Go to the website or call to find out if you qualify for eye care. EyeCare America facilitates eye care for U.S. citizens or legal residents who are without an Eye M.D. and who do not belong to an HMO or do not have eye care coverage through the Veterans Administration.

- ***Those who are age 65 or older and who have not seen an EyeMD in three or more years may be eligible to receive a comprehensive, medical eye exam and up to one year of care at no out-of-pocket cost for any disease diagnosed during the initial exam. Volunteer ophthalmologists will waive co-payments, accepting Medicare and/or other insurance reimbursement as payment in full: patients without insurance receive this care at no charge.***
- ***Those who are determined to be at increased risk for glaucoma (by age, race and family history) and have not had an eye exam in 12 months or more may be eligible to receive a free glaucoma eye exam if they are uninsured. Those with insurance will be billed for the exam and are responsible for any co-payments. The initiation of treatment is provided, if deemed necessary by the doctor during the exam.***

211 West Wacker Drive
Suite 1700
Chicago, Illinois 60606
800.331.2020
PreventBlindness.org



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Financial Assistance Information—Continued

The HealthWell Foundation

P.O. Box 4133
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
Phone: (800) 675-8416
Fax: (800) 282-7692

www.healthwellfoundation.org

The HealthWell Foundation provides financial assistance to eligible individuals to cover co-insurance, co-payments, healthcare premiums and deductibles for certain treatments.

Health Department

Call your local office.

The Hill Burton Program

Health Resources and
Services Administration
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 10C-16
Rockville, Maryland 20857
Phone: (800) 492-0359 (Maryland
residents)
(800) 638-0742

[http://www.hrsa.gov/
gethealthcare/affordable/
hillburton/](http://www.hrsa.gov/gethealthcare/affordable/hillburton/)

Participating hospitals and other healthcare facilities provide medical care for free, or at reduced cost, to those who meet eligibility requirements based on family size and income. Procedures covered vary from hospital to hospital. A list of assisting sites available in your state is located online.

InfantSEE

Optometry Cares
The Foundation of the American
Optometric Association
243 N. Lindbergh Blvd., Floor 1
St. Louis, MO 63141
Phone: (888) 396-EYES (3937)

www.infantsee.org

InfantSEE optometrists provide a no-cost comprehensive eye and vision assessment for infants within the first year of life regardless of a family's income or access to insurance coverage.

Lions Clubs International

300 22nd Street
Oak Brook, Illinois 60523
Phone: (630) 571-5466
(800) 747-4448

www.lionsclubs.org

Provides financial assistance to individuals for eye care through local clubs. On their website, go to "Find a Club" to locate your local club.

Lucentis® Access Solutions

Phone: (866) 724-9394 or
(866) 422-2377

Fax: (866) 724-9412

accessolutionsluc-d@gene.com
[www.genentech-access.com/
lucentis/patients](http://www.genentech-access.com/lucentis/patients)

Assists patients who are concerned about access to Lucentis (a drug treatment for AMD developed by Genentech) and assists them with health insurance coverage and reimbursement issues.

Medicaid

Centers for Medicare &
Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard,
Baltimore, MD 21244
www.medicaid.gov

Information and assistance can be found at the Medicare.gov website and the individual state Medicaid websites (see our "Medicaid by State" page). Generally, the best place to start is the Medicaid office of your particular state — most of the numbers listed here are for program issues and general questions and information.

Medicare

Centers for Medicare &
Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard,
Baltimore, MD 21244
Phone: (800) MEDICARE (633-4227)
www.medicare.gov

Medicare beneficiaries, family members, and caregivers can visit Medicare.gov, the Official U.S. Government Site for People with Medicare, for the latest information on Medicare enrollment, benefits, and other helpful tools.

Mission Cataract USA

6716 N. Cedar Avenue
Suite 212
Fresno, California 93710
www.missioncataractusa.org

Coordinated by the Volunteer Eye Surgeon's Association, it is a program providing free cataract surgery to people of all ages who have no other means to pay. Surgeries are scheduled annually on one day, usually in May.

National Council on Patient Information and Education

4915 Saint Elmo Avenue
Suite 505
Bethesda, Maryland 20814
Phone: (301) 340-3940
Fax: (301) 656-4464

www.talkaboutrx.org/med_users.jsp

They provide free information on their website regarding the safe use of medicines.

National Federation of the Blind

200 East Wells Street at
Jernigan Place
Baltimore, Maryland 21230
Phone: (410) 659-9314

www.nfb.org

They work to improve social and economic conditions of blind persons by providing evaluations of present programs and assistance in establishing new ones; awards scholarships to blind persons; has a public education program including speakers' bureau; and has several special interest divisions, including those for diabetics, educators, lawyers, parents of blind children, students and public employees. The National Federation of the Blind has affiliates in all fifty states plus Washington D.C. and Puerto Rico, and over seven hundred local chapters.

NeedyMeds

Post Office Box 219
Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: (978) 865-4115
Fax: (206) 260-8850

www.needymeds.com

They provide information obtained directly from the drug manufacturers regarding special programs to assist people who can't afford to buy the drugs they need.

New Eyes for the Needy

549 Millburn Avenue
Post Office Box 332
Short Hills, NJ 07078
Phone: (973) 376-4903
Fax: (973) 376-3807

www.neweyesfortheneedy.org

They accept donations of used prescription eyeglasses and distribute them to persons with limited incomes. Recipients must have a letter of referral from a social services agency.

Partnership for Prescription Assistance

1100 15th Street, Northwest
Washington, DC 20005
Phone: (888) 477-2669
Fax: (202) 835-3414

www.pparx.org

This website is designed to help people find patient assistance programs for which they may qualify.

Patient Access Network Foundation

PO Box 221858
Charlotte, NC 28222
Phone: (866) 316-PANF (7263)
contact@patientaccessnetwork.org

www.panfoundation.org

The Foundation operates co-pay assistance programs for patients with Age-Related Macular Degeneration, Diabetic Macular Edema, Retinal Vein Occlusion and Uveitis. To qualify, patients should be insured and the insurance must cover the medication for which the patient seeks assistance, must reside and receive treatment in the United States, and must have a household income below 500% (\$78,650 for a family of two) of the Federal Poverty Level (below 400%/\$58,350 for Uveitis). Qualifying patients can receive \$4,000/year for Age-Related Macular Degeneration and Diabetic Macular Edema; \$5,000/year for Retinal Vein Occlusion; and \$1,500/year for Uveitis.

Public Aid

Check with your state, county, or city office.

Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB)

Contact your local Medicare office for information on qualifying.

Salvation Army

Contact your local office.

Senior Centers

Contact your local center to see if they have financial resource information in your area.

Financial Assistance Information—Continued

Sight for Students, a Vision Service Plan (VSP)

Phone: (888) 290-4964

www.sightforstudents.org

Contact your local Prevent Blindness affiliate for more details. This program is in partnership with The Entertainment Industry Foundation, and provides eye exams and glasses to children 18 years old and younger whose families cannot afford vision care.

Social Security Administration (SSA)

Call your local Social Security Administration office for information on qualifying.

Social Workers

Contact a social worker at a hospital or other community agency. Social workers are often knowledgeable about community resources that can help people facing financial and medical problems.

Specified Low Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB)

Call your local Medicare office for information.

United Way

Check with your local office.

VISION USA

Optometry Cares

The Foundation of the American
Optometric Association

243 N. Lindbergh Blvd., Floor 1

St. Louis, MO 63141

Phone: (800) 766-4466

www.aoa.org/visionusa

VISION USA, an Optometry Cares program, provides free eye exams to low-income Americans across the U.S. Patients cannot have had an eye examination in the past 24 months. Applications may be obtained on the AOA website, along with more information. You must work with a charitable organization, social worker, case worker, community health agency to submit an application. Applicants are to provide proof of household income for verification of income level eligibility.