

NEBRASKA CHARITABLE VISION CARE RESOURCES

Statewide Resources

Nebraska Medicaid

Eligibility: Patients meeting federal Medicaid guidelines

What's covered: Routine vision care, eyeglasses

Availability through: Medicaid providers

Nebraska Medicaid medical plans often utilize a third party company to provide routine vision services and glasses. Medical eye issues, such as red eyes, eye injury, painful eyes, etc. are generally billed to the medical plan, not the vision plan. An individual in need of a more routine exam to determine if glasses are needed and basic eye health evaluation would schedule an exam with a provider on their vision plan in their area. The following plans are associated with one another:

United Health Care (UHC) Community Plan - March Vision

Nebraska Total Care - Envolve Vision

Healthy Blue (formerly WellCare) - Avesis

It is also important to note that many Medicaid plans offer replacement glasses for lost, broken or prescription changes. They may not show as eligible upon first authorization check, but there are generally modifiers or appeals forms that can be utilized to obtain coverage for glasses even if the benefit has been exhausted. NFCV can provide tips to your local optometrist on getting replacement pairs covered upon their request.

The best way to contact any of the Nebraska Medicaid plans is to call the phone number on the back of the covered member's card.

For tips regarding Medicaid coverage of replacement eyeglasses, see notes at the end of this document.

Changing Life Through Lenses OneSight EssilorLuxottica Vision Foundation

Eligibility: Uninsured patients of any age

What's covered: free eye exam, eyeglasses

Availability through: LensCrafters, Target Optical, some Pearle Vision locations

Changing Life through Lenses allows eye doctors and charities to create an online account for no-cost prescription eyeglasses, a frame collection, and access to resources on charitable engagement. OneSight EssilorLuxottica Vision Foundation works with schools, nonprofits, charitable doctors and communities to provide vision exams and glasses to underserved individuals. Some practices may require referral from a 501(c)3 entity validating financial need and lack of insurance. For more information: www.changinglifethroughlenses.org.

OneSight EssilorLuxottica Vision Foundation is undergoing quite a bit of change with their merger. They often partner with Lions Clubs to provide vouchers that are then redeemed at EssilorLuxottica-affiliated offices for an exam and glasses for those with financial need and without insurance. **EssilorLuxottica offices in Nebraska include: LensCrafters, Target Optical, and some Pearle Vision locations.** The best course of action at this time is to contact the store locations nearest the individual to find out what their process is for the OneSight program. www.onesight.org.

InfantSEE

Eligibility: Any infant age 6-12 months

What's covered: Free Infant eye assessment

Availability through: Participating optometrists

InfantSEE®, a public health program managed by Optometry Cares® - the AOA Foundation, is designed to ensure that eye and vision care becomes an essential part of infant wellness care to improve a child's quality of life. Under this program, participating optometrists provide a complimentary infant eye assessment between 6 and 12 months of age as a no-cost public service. Any 6-12-month-old infant is eligible. To find a participating doctor near you, go to www.InfantSee.org and click on "find a doctor".

Contact the office nearest to you to find out specifics on how they handle InfantSEE exams and confirm that they are a provider for the program.

National Vision Cares

Eligibility: Patients with no insurance or government health care

What's covered: Free eye exam, eyeglasses

Availability through: Walmart, America's Best, Eyeglass World

Through its domestic National Vision Cares program, National Vision empowers doctors and associates to support people in need in their local communities. All of National Vision's stores have access to the National Vision Cares Program. Each month, stores are provided with vouchers for a free eye exam and pair of glasses to give to eligible patients, customers or individuals in the community in need of vision care and who do not have vision insurance or participate in governmental health care programs, including those who have suffered major financial setbacks or have been affected by natural disasters.

Stores are encouraged to reach out to local organizations, schools and other entities to help identify people that need assistance. The best way to find out if this is an option in your local community is to reach out to the local WalMart, America's Best, and/or Eyeglass World locations near you.

School Vision Clinics

The Nebraska Foundation for Children's Vision, in conjunction with Nebraska Optometric Association, offers two templates for communities and schools interested in providing comprehensive eye exams for school children. One option involves arranging a one-time, on-site clinic at a school or community facility. The other option involves partnering with local optometrists to provide care in the doctor's office. Details and potential resource requirements are outlined in guidelines available on the NFCV website: www.NEchildrensvision.org. (See page for Resources/Schools & Nurses.) One of the expectations involved in school vision clinics involves collecting data on the correlation between vision and academic performance.

See to Learn

Eligibility: Any 3-year-old in Nebraska

What's covered: Free optometric vision assessment

Availability through: Participating Doctors of Optometry

The See To Learn program is offered through the Nebraska Foundation for Children's Vision in conjunction with the Nebraska Optometric Association as a preventive program to help make sure every child's early education and social development is unaffected by vision problems. Through See To Learn, parents can schedule a FREE vision assessment for any 3-year-old child in a participating optometrist's office. These assessments provide a more comprehensive evaluation of vision than a screening and include a case history, acuity evaluation, testing of eye alignment, and an eye health examination. More than 130 Doctors of Optometry in over 40 communities To find a participating doctor near you: www.seetolearn.com

Vision Service Plan (VSP) – Eyes of Hope

Eligibility: Family income up to 200% of the U.S. federal poverty guidelines, no insurance coverage for the services covered

What's covered: Eye exams, eyeglasses

Availability through: Participating VSP doctors

NOTE: Eyes of Hope replaces the former VSP 'Sight for Students' program. Sight for Student certificates are no longer being accepted by VSP.

VSP Eyes of Hope is a voucher-based program that provides eye exams and glasses to people in need. Vouchers/certificates are distributed via charitable partners such as the National Association of School Nurses, American Red Cross, Lions Clubs and Prevent Blindness. Certificates or vouchers must be redeemed through local VSP network doctors. Your local partners should have information about Eyes of Hope and can request certificates through the website: www.giftcertificates.vspeyesofhope.com or at www.partners.vspeyesofhope.com. Fliers can be ordered and more information is available through the website or by emailing giftcertificates@vsp.com.

Locate a local VSP doctor through the Find a Doctor feature at: eyedoctor.vspeyesofhope.com

Not all VSP doctors carry the specific frame brands that are covered by Eyes of Hope. You may have to contact more than one provider listed on the VSP website in order find one to redeem Eyes of Hope certificates.

Additional guidance for providers regarding utilization of this resource can be found later in this document.

Local/Regional Resources

LINCOLN

Clinic With a Heart

Eligibility: Uninsured and underinsured

Services: Eye exam, eyeglasses

Available through: Volunteer doctors at external clinics

Clinic With a Heart serves people who are uninsured and under-insured. Call the clinic at 402-421-2924 or 888-317-8608 to receive a voucher for vision care which is covered by a CWAH donor. Clinic is located at 1701 S. 17th St Suite 4G in Lincoln but eye exams are provided at the offices of participating doctors. Eye exam request form is available online at: <https://hipaa.jotform.com/212426023174142>. See website for more information: clinicwithaheart.org.

OMAHA

Heart Ministry Center -- Monen Healthcare Clinic

Eligibility: Children & adults

Services: Eye exams, glaucoma screenings, vision correction, eyeglasses, contact lenses

Available through: Clinic at 2222 Binney Street in Omaha

The Vision Clinic is provided by volunteer eye specialists. Heart Ministry covers the cost of any glasses, contacts, or necessary prescriptions for community members. The walk-in vision clinic is offered on the first Wednesday of each month. Call 402-932-4887 to reach the clinic. More information available at: <https://heartministrycenter.org/monen-healthcare-clinic/>

Visionmobile

Eligibility: School students in Omaha metro area and surrounding areas. No child will be turned away due to a family's inability to pay.

Services: Comprehensive eye exam, eyeglasses

Available through: Children's Hospital & Medical Center

The wheels on the bus go round and round! Children's Hospital and Medical Center's Visionmobile provides eye care on-site at schools in the metro and surrounding areas. Details and FAQs available at: <https://www.childrensomaha.org/visionmobile/>. Call 402-639-0124 or email Visionmobile@ChildrensOmaha.org for more information about scheduling the Visionmobile for school visits.

OTHER IDEAS FOR LOCAL HELP

Other potential sources of finding financial and/or transportation help related to vision care or eyeglasses for children could include United Way, local Lions Clubs, public health departments, and churches.

Additional Resources

Sight for School Fund

The Nebraska Foundation for Children's Vision is in the process of implementing a designated charitable fund to provide eye exams and glasses for those in need who do not qualify for any of the other available programs. Please watch for updates to this list or visit the NFCV website (www.NEchildrensvision.org) for more information on how to apply for and potentially utilize this program.

MEDICAID GLASSES REPLACEMENT CHEAT SHEET for O.D.s

Avesis (Healthy Blue, formerly Healthy Blue) Replacement Pairs:

Log in and navigate to Documents -> Form -> Avesis Prior Authorization Form 2021. Complete and follow up in a week or so. We've had better luck when we have the patient write out something for us to include in the submission. Eventually, you should get an approval for the replacement pair.

Envolve (Nebraska Total Care) Medicaid Replacement Pairs:

Put in an order for a complete new pair through the claims (it will show as benefit no available on availability, but since it's a break and Rx change, it can be done anyway). Submit claim as

normal but use modifier RA (complete pair). RB modifier is partial pair if you'd need just a frame or just lenses. In our experience, it's easier to just order the complete pair.

March Vision (UHC Community Plan) Medicaid Replacement Pairs:

Submit claim as normal, but there is a button on submission that you select that says the frame is broken or lost. They also have info for alternate frames if their selection they provide will not work for a patient. This is provided below for your reference.

March Vision Alternate Frames-Miraflex

Call March Vision and go through auto-prompts. Eventually you can hit zero over & over again and it will connect to a real person.

Give service rep the patient's ID number (or name, DOB) and ask about non-formulary covered frames for children. Hopefully they have the benefit and we can use our frames. But, it sounds like most do not, and they'll offer Miraflex frames for children 0-3 years old, and then from 4-8 years old in certain instances (like a child with Down Syndrome, etc).

Supposedly the Flex Frames (formerly Miraflex) that ARE formulary are the following:

Baby Lux - New Baby 1, 2, & 3 - Mini Baby - Baby Zero

If we think the patient should be covered for a Flex Frame/Miraflex frame, you'll call March (EyeSynergy) and ask for them to create an open issue for Flex Frame/Miraflex for the patient. This will expedite the claims process. Once we get the confirmation number from them, we will log into Eye Synergy and print off a special claim form to submit via fax.

Claim form: Log in to Eye Synergy, Go to Resources -> Forms -> Lab Order form

Eyes of Hope® | VSP® Gift Certificates

Gift Certificates

As VSP® Eyes of Hope® celebrates 25 years, we're enhancing the gift certificates to make it even easier for you to provide vision care for people in need in your community. On April 1, 2022, we're expanding the frame coverage to include all Marchon® and Altair® Eyewear brands within an increased allowance and consolidating the types of gift certificates.

VSP Global partners with charitable organizations year-round to distribute Eyes of Hope gift certificates to adults and children who qualify. Recipients are referred to VSP Choice Plan® network doctors to redeem their gift certificate.

- **Disaster Relief gift certificates** are provided to community members during a disaster through partnerships with the American Red Cross and other partners.*
- **Eyes of Hope gift certificates** are distributed to adults and children in need year-round through a network of community partners, including school nurses, and at mobile clinic events.
- **Sight for Students gift certificates**, formerly provided to children up to the age of 19, are no longer being distributed as of April 1, 2022, but you may still see them in your practice through March 2023.

You will be reimbursed by VSP Vision Care as a VSP Choice Plan network doctor.

Enhanced Coverage

As of April 1, 2022, be sure to review the new coverage and instructions for submitting a claim in the "VSP Eyes of Hope Gift Certificates" section of the VSP Choice Plan Network Manual on VSPOnline. This information will supersede what's printed on the gift certificate.

In most cases:

- Adults and children are eligible for an eye exam and basic glasses with single-vision, lined bifocal, or lined trifocal lenses. Sight for Students® is being retired since the VSP Eyes of Hope gift certificates will now include the same benefits.
- Polycarbonate lenses are covered for children (but not adults). Monocular patients are also covered for polycarbonate lenses.
- VSP Eyes of Hope gift certificates cover all Marchon Eyewear and Altair Eyewear brands up to a \$150 retail frame allowance (\$57 wholesale frame allowance).
- As of April 1, 2022, the VSP Eyes of Hope gift certificates will provide the same coverage as VSP Sight for Students for children through the age of 19 but with the added benefit of the frame coverage expanded to include all Marchon and Altair Eyewear brands up to a \$150 retail frame allowance (\$57 wholesale frame allowance).

Claims Submission

- As of April 1, 2022, claims must be submitted according to the instructions in the "VSP Eyes of Hope Gift Certificates" section of the VSP Choice Network Manual on VSPOnline.
- For claims before April 1, 2022, submit the claim according to the instructions printed on the back of the VSP Eyes of Hope or VSP Sight for Students gift certificate supplied by the patient.
- All orders must be sent to a VSPOne Optical Technology Center (formerly VSP Labs). When you submit the claim, you'll see a list of the VSPOne labs available. You'll also be able to submit lab orders to any VSPOne Optical Lab.
Carefully review the option grid when submitting your claim. Options may vary, and selecting an option marked 'N' or 'Non-covered' will invalidate your reimbursement for the claim.

Covered Frames

Visit marchon.com and altaireyewear.com for a current list of frame brands. Not all frame brands listed may be within the covered allowance. Brands with fully covered frames include Marchon NYC™, Genesis™, Lenton & Rusby®, Otis & Piper™, and Kilter®.

To add Marchon and Altair frames to your dispensary that are covered by the program, please contact your **Account Executive**. The collections can be viewed at marchon.com and altaireyewear.com.

Call us at 800.615.1883 or email giftcertificates@vsp.com with any questions.

We appreciate your participation and the care you deliver to every patient!

*VSP members affected by disaster may have their benefits reinstated if they're not currently eligible. Simply call 800.615.1883 for eligibility and an authorization. You can refer non-VSP patients who need eyecare or eyewear due to a disaster to their **local chapter** of the American Red Cross for a gift certificate. If the local chapter doesn't have gift certificates, please have them call national headquarters at 800.RED.CROSS (800.733.2767).