



MAINE LIONS SIGHT & HEARING FOUNDATION

A 501(c)3 Corporation

Serving the State of Maine since 1955

MLSHF Sight Services Assistance Program and Resource for Lions Clubs

A goal of Maine Lions Clubs is to provide sight savings services for Mainers in need. Maine Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation (MLSHF) assists applicants who are uninsured, meet income guidelines and otherwise unable to fund or obtain eyeglasses, eye exams in areas where there are no active Lions club, or club with ability to fund such requests.

Assorted club resources for eyeglass or routine vision examinations:

- **School nurses** who belong to the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) *Enrolled school nurses can get VSP certificates for a free eye exam and glasses from Sight for Students*
- **Children and Adults covered by Maine Care** may receive routine eye exams and glasses. *restrictions apply, see below.
- **Adults covered by Original Medicare** receive free eye exams if there is a medical condition.
- **Adults covered by Medicare Advantage plans** (Medicare C plans) may offer additional coverage, which could include routine vision benefits.
- **Federal Market place** plan insurance covers children vision screening, eye glasses may be subject to co-insurance * need to contact their plans members services department.
- **Commercial/Employer health plan insurance** coverage varies and will need to contact their plans member services department.
- **Local Lions Clubs provide assistance.**
- **Maine Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation** provides assistance to obtain eye examinations (MLSHF funding, VISION USA-provider pro-bono services), eye glasses through participating preferred providers (Walmart Vision Centers, \$38 - \$58, for basic single vision, basic lined bifocal)

*** Individuals with Maine Care, Medicare, Medicare Advantage plans, Federal health coverage and other commercial insurance have access to coverage of eye exams. These covered individuals may require additional assistance to obtain eyeglasses as there are limitations for coverage of eyeglasses. e.g.,*

- Children (under 21 years) covered by Maine Care receive one routine eye exam annually. Maine Care will pay for eyeglasses when the refractive error in at least one eye meets at least one of the following definitions: *Hyperopia: +1.25 diopter or over ; Myopia: -0.75 diopter or over; Astigmatism: -0.50 diopter or over*
- Adults (above 21 years) covered by Maine Care receive one routine eye exam every (3) rolling calendar years. For members ages 21 and over, MaineCare will pay for one pair of eyeglasses per lifetime when the power is equal to or greater than 10.00 diopters.

**Except that routine eye exams indicated as standard of care for specific medical diagnoses (ex. diabetes) or medication use (ex. Plaquenil) will be covered as medically indicated.*

Clubs are welcomed to email questions to mainelionssightandhearing@gmail.com or download and submit the MLSHF application, available on MaineLions.org

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