Student Health and Well-Being <u>Resources for Low-Income Families Who May Qualify for Free or Reduced-</u> <u>Cost Vision Evaluations</u>

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1. Insurance coverages

Many insurance companies cover the cost of an eye exam (Blue Cross/Blue Shield, United Health Care, Coventry, Vision Service Plan, Spectera, etc.). Check with the company as to details of vision care coverage.

2. Employer-based options

Parents with cafeteria plans, Medical Savings Accounts, Health Savings Accounts, or other flexible spending plans through employers can typically use these accounts to pay for vision exams.

- Medicaid and Kids Connection Office visits, eye exams and glasses are covered. Local social service offices have details as to eligibility.
- 4. SIGHT FOR STUDENTS

Provides free exam, discounted eyewear for eligible students from participating optometrists. Check website for details: <u>www.sightforstudents.org</u>

- Lions Clubs of Nebraska Clubs located throughout the state provide vision care assistance for needy families. Usually involves referral by teacher, clergy or health professional. Contact local clubs for details.
- Community health centers and services
 Community health centers and community-based health services throughout the
 state can provide free eye exams for low income families that qualify, or
 coordinate the availability of reduced-cost services. Check with local social
 service agencies for options near you.
- 7. Discount plans from health care providers Many optometrists and other health care providers offer family discounts, package pricing on children's eyewear, and other in-office discounts.
- 8. Vision USA

Low income families with working parent and no vision insurance may qualify for free exams from participating optometrists. Call 1-800-766-4466 or check the American Optometric Association website (www.aoa.org) for eligibility guidelines and information about scheduling appointments.

Compiled by Nebraska Foundation for Children's Vision (www.NEchildrensvision.org)