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# A childhood eye health and vision awareness program



**Eye See...Eye Learn®** is a program that provides kindergarten students with a comprehensive eye exam from a Doctor of Optometry, which is covered by Alberta Health Care. If required, kindergarten students also receive a free pair of eyeglasses.

## How to Participate\*

### Step 1

Find a participating Doctor of Optometry, visit [www.optometrists.ab.ca](http://www.optometrists.ab.ca) and click on **Find an Optometrist**. Enter your postal code to find a participating Doctor of Optometry near you and call to book your child's appointment.

### Step 2

Take your child in for a comprehensive eye exam. Have their health card ready!

### Step 3

If required, your child will receive a free pair of eyeglasses. Ask the participating Doctor of Optometry to see the selection of frames to choose from and they will order your child's glasses for you.

**\*Kindergarten students only**

**\*Free glasses are covered by a one year manufacturer's warranty**

## Eye exams

Alberta Health Care covers the cost of annual comprehensive eye exams for children up to age 19. It's a painless, non-invasive process that could change their lives!

## Who can participate?

**Eye See...Eye Learn®** is available to all kindergarten students in Alberta. It's important to address eye health and vision problems before children begin school.

Free eyeglasses will be provided to kindergarten students who have received a prescription from a Doctor of Optometry.

Children are eligible from September until they begin grade one.

**FREE  
Glasses**

## Vision and Learning

Did you know?

- 80% of learning is visual
- 1 in 4 school-aged children has a vision problem
- An eye exam detects health problems such as crossed eyes or lazy eye
- Many vision problems are difficult to detect without an eye exam
- Children with vision problems are often misdiagnosed as having learning or behavioural disabilities
- The earlier an eye health or visual problem is identified, the more likely it can be corrected
- Children often don't know they have a vision problem, as they believe what they are seeing is normal.

It is not uncommon for parents to believe they would know if their child has a vision problem, because these issues can be hard to spot particularly if there is a problem in only one of the eyes.

## What is an optometrist?

Your Doctor of Optometry is a primary eye health care provider. Optometrists diagnose, treat and help prevent eye diseases and disorders.

# How well can your child see?



Your Doctor of Optometry knows the answer! During your child's eye exam, your optometrist will assess:

- Visual acuity
- Lazy eye, crossed eyes
- Nearsightedness, farsightedness, astigmatism
- Eye coordination, tracking and depth perception
- Colour vision
- Eye health
- Review of family history, overall health and lifestyle



For more information about **Eye See...Eye Learn®**, contact the Alberta Association of Optometrists at 1-800-272-8843 ext. 232 or [www.optometrists.ab.ca/esel](http://www.optometrists.ab.ca/esel)

Eyewear Partners:



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