



## Ohio's Aging Eye Public Private Partnership (AEPPP)

*The AEPPP is a statewide collaborative effort formed to respond to the growth of aging eye challenges in Ohio. Supported by the Ohio Department of Aging, the AEPPP works to develop a strategic plan of action to address issues relating to vision care policy, vision care services, vision education and vision research that impacts the quality of life for Ohio's seniors now and in the future.*

### Member Organizations:

- NASA Glenn Research Center
- Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging
- Ohio Association of Gerontology and Education
- Ohio Agencies Serving the Blind and Visually Impaired
- Ohio Department of Aging
- Ohio Department of Health
- Ohio Department of Insurance/OSHIIP
- Ohio Ophthalmological Society
- Ohio Osteopathic Association
- Ohio Optometric Association
- Ohio Veterans Visual Impairment Services Team
- Opticians Association of Ohio
- Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency
- Prevent Blindness
- State Senator Capri Cafaro
- State Representative Tom Letson

# Ohio Vision Resources and Services Guide



**Helping Ohioans Enjoy  
Good Sight for Life!**

**This publication created by  
Ohio's Aging Eye  
Public Private Partnership**

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**Ohio**

Department of  
Aging

# Enjoy Good Sight for Life!

## Vision Problems are Growing

Half of all blindness can be prevented, but the number of Ohioans who suffer vision loss continues to increase. Because of the growth in the aging population, there will be more than 2.5 million Ohioans affected by vision-robbing conditions by the year 2030. The primary causes are: diabetic retinopathy, cataract, glaucoma and age-related macular degeneration (AMD).

## Protect Your Sight

There are several steps you can take to make sure your vision remains healthy for as long as possible:

- Exercise
- Do not smoke
- Wear sunglasses
- Have an eye exam performed by an eye care professional on a regular basis
- Eat a healthy diet as recommended by your doctor

Many eye diseases, including those associated with diabetes, do not exhibit any initial symptoms before permanent vision loss can occur. An eye exam with pupil dilation is the best defense against undetected eye disease.

## Eye Care Resources

Read on to learn about statewide resources to help connect you to an eye doctor, prescription assistance, rehabilitation services, educational materials and low or no cost eye exams!

## Professional Eye Care

Contact the following organizations to find an eye care professional:

### Ohio Ophthalmological Society

**1-614-527-6799**

**[www.ohioeye.org](http://www.ohioeye.org)**

### Ohio Optometric Association

**1-614-781-0708 or 1-800-874-9111**

**[www.ooa.org](http://www.ooa.org)**

## Reduced Cost Eye Exams and Glasses

Contact the following organizations to see if you qualify for free or reduced cost eye exams, glasses or surgical care:

### Prevent Blindness

**1-800-301-2020 or [www.pbohio.org](http://www.pbohio.org)**

### Vision USA

American Optometric Association  
(Someone in the household must be employed)

**1-800-766-4466 or**

**[www.aoa.org/visionusa.xml](http://www.aoa.org/visionusa.xml)**

### EyeCare America

**1-877-887-6327 or**

**[www.eyecareamerica.org](http://www.eyecareamerica.org)**

### Ohio Lions Club

Lions Clubs may be able to provide you with free or reduced cost eye care, eyeglasses and/or low vision aids.

**1-614-539-5060 or [www.ohiolions.org](http://www.ohiolions.org)**



## Low Vision Assistance

The agencies below provide vision assistance related to employment disability determination and independent living:

### Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired  
1-800-282-4536 or [www.ood.ohio.gov](http://www.ood.ohio.gov)

### Veteran's Administration

Visual Impairment Service Team  
1-216-791-3800 ext. 2108 (statewide) or  
[www.visn10.va.gov](http://www.visn10.va.gov)

## Prescription Drug Discounts

Contact the following organizations to see if you qualify for reduced cost or free prescriptions:

### Partnerships for Prescription Assistance

1-888-477-2669 or [www.pparx.org](http://www.pparx.org)

### Ohio's Best Rx

1-866-923-7879 or [www.ohiobestrx.org](http://www.ohiobestrx.org)

### Together Rx Access

1-800-444-4106 or  
[www.togetherrxaccess.com](http://www.togetherrxaccess.com)

### Social Security

1-800-772-1213 or [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)



## Eye Care Education

### Prevent Blindness

Provides eye health and safety educational materials, curriculums, vision screenings and vision screening training.

1-800-301-2020 or [www.pb ohio.org](http://www.pb ohio.org)  
[www.WiseAboutEyes.org](http://www.WiseAboutEyes.org)

### Ohio Department of Health

Ohio Diabetes Prevention and Control Program  
1-614-466-2144 or [www.odh.ohio.gov](http://www.odh.ohio.gov)

### National Eye Institute

1-301-496-5248 or [www.nei.nih.gov](http://www.nei.nih.gov)

### Ohio Ophthalmological Society

1-614-527-6799 or [www.ohioeye.org](http://www.ohioeye.org)

### Ohio Optometric Association

1-800-874-9111 or [www.ooa.org](http://www.ooa.org)

## Aging & Disability Services

Your local area agency on aging can provide information about services and supports to help older adults live independently, such as case management, home-delivered meals, home health and personal care, home modifications, and transportation. Ask about a free long-term care consultation.

1-866-243-5678 or  
[www.aging.ohio.gov/resources/areaagenciesonaging](http://www.aging.ohio.gov/resources/areaagenciesonaging)

For other aging-related questions, contact the Ohio Department of Aging.

1-800-266-4346 or [www.aging.ohio.gov](http://www.aging.ohio.gov)

## Other Helpful Resources

### Ohio Department of Medicaid

1-800-324-8680 or  
[www.medicaid.ohio.gov](http://www.medicaid.ohio.gov)

### Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program (OSHIIP)

1-800-686-1578 or  
[www.insurance.ohio.gov](http://www.insurance.ohio.gov)

### Ohio's Long Term Care Ombudsman

1-800-282-1206 or  
[www.aging.ohio.gov/services/ombudsman](http://www.aging.ohio.gov/services/ombudsman)

### Ohio Department of Veterans Services

1-888-387-6446 or  
[www.dvs.ohio.gov/](http://www.dvs.ohio.gov/)

### KEPRO

Ohio's Medicare Quality Improvement Organization  
1-800-589-7337 or [www.ohiokepro.com](http://www.ohiokepro.com)

### U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

1-800-633-4227 or [www.cms.gov](http://www.cms.gov)

### U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs

1-800-827-1000 or [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

### U. S. Social Security Administration

1-800-772-1213 or [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)

### National Federation for the Blind (NFB-NEWSLINE)

Telephone reading service for people who are visually impaired.

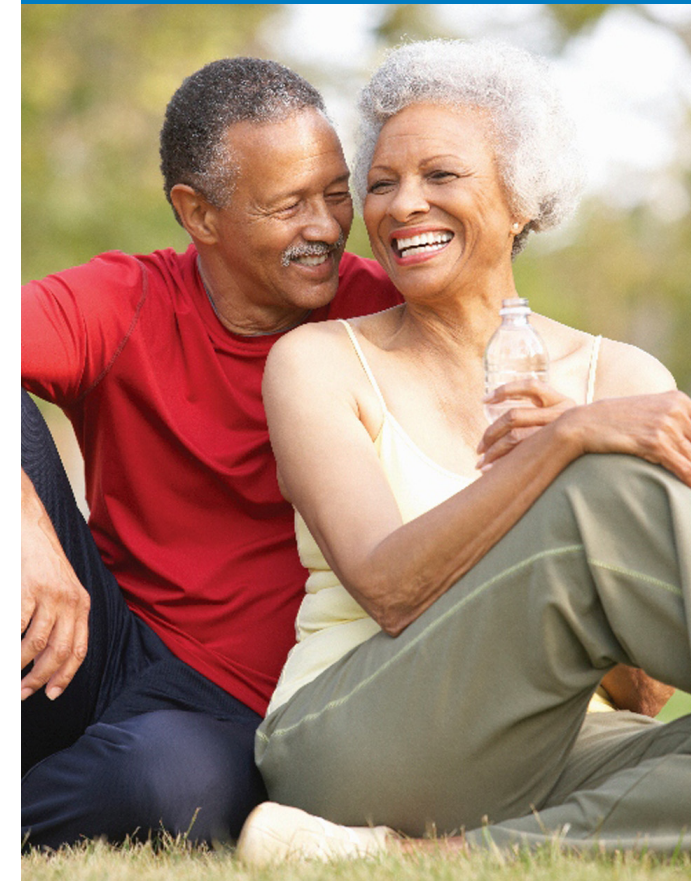
1-866-504-7300 or  
[www.nfb.org/audio-newspaper-service](http://www.nfb.org/audio-newspaper-service)

### VOICEcorps Reading Service (Central Ohio)

1-614-274-7650 or [www.VOICEcorps.org](http://www.VOICEcorps.org)

*Approximately 15% of Ohioans 40 and older have some measure of difficulty recognizing a friend across the street, while 19.6% have not had an eye exam in the last two years.*

- 2012 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Ohio Department of Health



**For More Information:**  
**Ohio's Aging Eye**  
**Public Private Partnership**  
c/o Prevent Blindness  
1500 W. 3rd Ave, Suite 200  
Columbus, OH 43212  
1-800-301-2020  
[www.pb ohio.org](http://www.pb ohio.org)

