

Help with the costs of your spectacles or Contact lenses

WHAT SERVICES ARE PROVIDED

NHS optical vouchers

You're entitled to an optical voucher for help towards the cost of your glasses or contact lenses if you:

- are under 16
- are 16, 17 or 18 and in full-time education
- are a prisoner on leave from prison
- are eligible for an NHS complex lens voucher – your optician can advise you about your entitlement

You also qualify for an optical voucher if you:

- get Income Support
- get Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- get Income-based Employment and Support Allowance
- get Pension Credit Guarantee Credit
- get tax credits and meet the criteria
- get Universal Credit and meet the criteria
- have a low income and are named on a valid NHS HC2 certificate for full help with health costs

You may be entitled to an optical voucher if you have a low income and are named on a valid NHS HC3 certificate for partial help with health costs.

NHS complex lens vouchers

To be eligible, your lenses need to be either -10/+10 dioptries or more, or prism-controlled bifocal lenses. Complex lens vouchers are a contribution towards the cost of these lenses – currently £14.60 for single vision lenses and £37.40 for bifocal lenses. The vouchers are only available to those who meet the clinical criteria and aren't eligible for one of the main optical vouchers