

Y Grŵp Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol

Health & Social Services Group

LHB Directors of Primary, Community and Mental Health Services
LHB Directors of Finance
Optometrists and Ophthalmic Medical Practitioners on LHB lists



**Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government**

11 November 2025

Dear Colleague

GENERAL OPHTHALMIC SERVICES AND EYE EXAMINATION SERVICES FEES, DOMICILIARY FEES, PAYMENTS FOR CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, PRE-REGISTRATION SUPERVISORS GRANT, PRACTICE GRANT FOR COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRISTS PROFESSIONAL HIGHER CERTIFICATE IN GLAUCOMA AND QUALITY FOR OPTOMETRY.

Summary

1. I am writing to notify you of the:
 - a) General Ophthalmic Services (NHS Sight Test) Fee, Eye Examination Services Fees and domiciliary fees from 1 April 2025;
 - b) Optometry Collaborative Cluster Payments from 1 April 2025;
 - c) Hospital Eye Service maximum patient charge from 1 April 2025;
 - d) Continued Professional Development payment for 2024 calendar year; and
 - e) Grant payable to supervisors of pre-registration trainees;
 - f) Practice Grant for College of Optometrists, Higher Professional Certificate in Glaucoma;
 - g) Quality for Optometry.
2. Please could you bring this information to the attention of all staff dealing with primary care ophthalmic services, i.e. dispensing opticians, optometrists, ophthalmic medical practitioners and other staff concerned with the hospital eye service.
3. Local Health Boards should ensure that copies of this letter are distributed to all dispensing opticians, optometrists and ophthalmic medical practitioners in their areas.
4. The determination and directions to Local Health Boards contained in the [Statement of General Ophthalmic Services Remuneration and Fee Directions 2025](#) are made in the exercise of the Welsh Minister's powers in sections 12(3), 76, 77 and 203(9) and (10) of the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006.

General Ophthalmic Services and Eye Examination Services Fees / NHS Domiciliary Fee

5. General Ophthalmic Services (NHS Sight Test) Fee has increased for 2025/26 and is set at £46.20, effective from 1 April 2025.

6. The Eye Examination Service Fee effective from 1 April 2025 is – for WGOS 2 Band 1 set at £72.88; WGOS 2 Band 2 set at £55.18; and WGOS 2 Band 3 set at £27.07.
7. For NHS domiciliary visits carried out on or after 1 April 2025, the fee is £42.60 for the first and second patients and £10.66 for third and subsequent patients.
8. Payments must be made in accordance with the Statement of General Ophthalmic Services Remuneration and Fee Directions.

Optometry Collaborative Cluster Payments from 1 April 2025

9. To ensure consistency of engagement across Wales, Optometry Cluster Collaboratives are being established with a duty for each optometry practice within the cluster to engage through participating in the Optometry Professional Collaborative meetings. Each optometry practice must attend at least 4 meetings per financial year and is to be reimbursed for attending each meeting, up to a maximum of four meetings. Payments must be made in accordance with the Statement of General Ophthalmic Services Remuneration and Fee Directions.

Maximum Patient Charge within the Hospital Eye Service

10. The Hospital Eye Service maximum charges will continue to be: £70.00 for single vision lenses; and £113.80 in any other case.

Payments for Continued Professional Development (CPD)

11. The payments in respect of continuing professional development undertaken in 2024 by optometrists, dispensing opticians and ophthalmic medical practitioners without another medical appointment (i.e. who do no other remunerative work but Primary Ophthalmic Services) are set out in the Statement of General Ophthalmic Services Remuneration and Fee Directions. Further guidance will follow in due course from NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership (NWSSP).
12. Payments will be made in respect of claims made by dispensing opticians, optometrists and ophthalmic medical practitioners relating to CPD training undertaken during the year from 1 January to 31 December 2024. Payments must be made in accordance with the Statement of General Ophthalmic Services Remuneration and Fee Directions.

Pre-registration supervisors grant

13. The allowance paid to supervisors of pre-registration trainees remains at £7,500. Claims from trainers taking on pre-registration trainees on or after 1 April 2025 should be paid at this rate.

Practice Grant (WGOS 4 Higher Professional Certificate in Glaucoma and Medical Retina)

14. To encourage contractors to release optometrists to complete the clinical requirements for the College of Optometrists Professional Higher Certificate in Glaucoma and Professional Higher Certificate in Medical Retina, optometry practices will be reimbursed for each clinical session an optometrist attends for the purposes of

attaining the qualification, up to a maximum of forty sessions (20 days). Payments must be made in accordance with the Statement of General Ophthalmic Services Remuneration and Fee Directions.

Quality for Optometry

15. To further improve governance arrangements formal Quality Improvement standards have been introduced for Optometry in Wales. Robust quality improvement systems are necessary to measure and ensure the highest quality outcomes for patients in Wales. As part of the scheme contractors are required to complete a National Workforce Reporting tool outlining the workforce in their practice; make a return of the Quality for Optometry (QO) governance template; participate in and complete three audits (clinical and non-clinical) annually; and undertake mandatory training as required. Payments must be made in accordance with the Statement of General Ophthalmic Services Remuneration and Fee Directions.

Guidance

16. A copy of this letter and the Annexes will be placed on the NWSSP website at [Ophthalmic Services - NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership](#).

17. If optometrists, dispensing opticians or ophthalmic medical practitioners have any queries then they should contact their Local Health Board or Primary Care Services at NWSSP.

NHS Optical Voucher Values

18. NHS optical voucher values and supplements have been amended from 1 April 2025 – Annex 1 refers.

Yours sincerely



Rhys Davies
Primary Care Division

cc Optometry Wales

NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership – Primary Care Services
Paul Casey, Deputy Director for Primary & Community Care, Welsh Government (WG)
Sarah O'Sullivan Adams, Head of Optometry and Audiology Branch (WG)
David O'Sullivan, Chief Optometric Adviser (WG)

Voucher Values and Supplements

Updates have been made to the NHS optical vouchers and supplements set out in the *National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) Regulations 1997* with effect from 1 April 2025. A summary of the voucher values and supplements as of 1 April 2025 is set out below for information only.

Voucher for Supply - Type of optical appliance		Value
(1) Type of optical appliance	(2) Number code	(3) Face value of voucher
1. Glasses with single vision lenses of a spherical power of not more than 6 dioptries with a cylindrical power of not more than 2 dioptries.	1	£23.26
2. Glasses with single vision lenses- (a) of a spherical power of more than 6 dioptries but less than 10 dioptries with a cylindrical power of not more than 6 dioptries; (b) of a spherical power of less than 10 dioptries with a cylindrical power of more than 2 dioptries but not more than 6 dioptries.	2	£44.42
3. Glasses with single vision lenses of a spherical power of 10 or more dioptries but not more than 14 dioptries with a cylindrical power of not more than 6 dioptries.	3	£157.64
4. Glasses with single vision lenses- (a) of a spherical power of more than 14 dioptries with any cylindrical power; (b) of a cylindrical power of more than 6 dioptries with any spherical power.	4	£280.69
5. Glasses with single vision lenses- (a) of a spherical power of more than 20 dioptries with any cylindrical power; (b) of a cylindrical power of more than 10 dioptries with any spherical power.	5	£383.41
6. Glasses with multifocal lenses of a spherical power of not more than 6	6	£42.30

dioptries with a cylindrical power of not more than 2 dioptries.		
7. Glasses with multifocal lenses- (a) of a spherical power of more than 6 dioptries but less than 10 dioptries with a cylindrical power of not more than 6 dioptries; (b) of a spherical power less than 10 dioptries but with a cylindrical power of more than 2 dioptries but not more than 6 dioptries.	7	£81.44
8. Glasses with multifocal lenses of a spherical power of 10 or more dioptries but not more than 14 dioptries with a cylindrical power of not more than 6 dioptries.	8	£304.08
9. Glasses with prism-controlled multifocal lenses of any power or with multifocal lenses- (a) of a spherical power of more than 14 dioptries with any cylindrical power; (b) with a cylindrical power of more than 6 dioptries with any spherical power.	9	£393.58
10. Glasses with multifocal lenses- (a) of a spherical power of more than 20 dioptries with any cylindrical power; (b) with a cylindrical power of more than 10 dioptries with any spherical power.	10	£539.01
11. Glasses not falling within any of paragraphs 1 to 10 for which a prescription is given in consequence of a sight test by a Local Health Board otherwise than under an arrangement under Part 6 of the 2006 Act.	11	£539.01
12. Contact lenses for which a prescription is given in consequence of a sight test by a Local Health Board otherwise than under an arrangement under Part 6 of the 2006 Act.	12	£57.97

Complex Lens Voucher**Value from 1 April 2025**

Single Vision	£15.44
Bifocal	£39.56

Tints/photochromic Lens Supplement (per lens)

Single Vision	£2.11
Bifocal	£2.64

Prism (per lens)

Single Vision	£12.68
Bifocal	£14.80

Complex Prism Supplement	Case by case basis – on application to NWSSP
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Small Glasses Supplement

Supplement	£67.90
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Childrens supplement	£15.86
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Where an eligible person under 19 years of age is issued with a voucher 1 and a non-stock lens is required to improve the cosmetic appearance of the optical appliance, in relation to which the voucher will be used, which has single vision lenses of a spherical power of between 4 and 6 dioptries, with a cylindrical power of not more than 2 dioptries.

Voucher for Repair or Replacement Values from 1 April 2025

Voucher Number	1 lens	2 lenses	Front of frame	Side of frame	Whole frame
1	6.34	12.68	8.99	5.29	10.58
2	16.92	33.84	8.99	5.29	10.58
3	73.73	147.47	8.99	5.29	10.58
4	135.26	270.52	8.99	5.29	10.58
5	186.62	373.24	8.99	5.29	10.58
6	15.87	31.74	8.99	5.29	10.58
7	35.43	70.86	8.99	5.29	10.58
8	146.96	293.91	8.99	5.29	10.58
9	191.70	383.41	8.99	5.29	10.58
10	264.42	528.84	8.99	5.29	10.58
11	264.42	528.84	8.99	5.29	10.58

Note:

19. Where the small glasses supplement or special facial characteristics supplement applies, the amount payable for repair of:

the front of the frame is £64.42

the side of the frame is £32.65

the whole of the frame is £68.05

20. Where more than one repair is made to an optical appliance, when calculating the total to be paid, the element of the voucher which relates to repairs of the frame must not exceed £14.10.