

# VISION AND LEARNING MAKE THE CONNECTION

MANY CHILDREN, EVEN YOUNG CHILDREN,  
CAN HAVE A VISION PROBLEM.

**How do I know if my child has trouble seeing?**



Upon entering kindergarten, and yearly afterwards, your child will have a vision screening at their school or pediatrician's office.

**If your child does not pass this vision screening, do not delay.  
TAKE YOUR CHILD TO AN EYE DOCTOR  
FOR A FULL EYE EXAM RIGHT AWAY.**



Children's Vision  
Massachusetts

Open Eyes. Open Doors.

## If my child does not pass the vision screening, and/or I think they have trouble seeing, what should I do?

**Make an appointment with an eye doctor today. Do not wait.** If your child has a vision problem it will not go away by itself. An uncorrected vision problem may make it hard for your child to learn to read, do schoolwork, or enjoy play and other activities.

## I don't have an eye doctor, who should I call?

- Ask your child's school nurse, pediatrician, or the local health center for the name of an eye doctor who takes care of young children and accepts your child's health insurance.
- For an on-line directory of eye doctors  
<https://www.maoptometry.org/find-a-doctor.html>  
<http://mseps.org/referral-directory-by-area-2/>
- Massachusetts eye doctors who accept Mass Health and treat children under 5 years old:  
<https://childrensvision.preventblindness.org/cvma-resources>

## Will my child's health insurance pay for an eye exam and eyeglasses for my child?

Many **MASS HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS** will pay for a child's eye exam and eyeglasses, and replacement eyeglasses if your child breaks or loses theirs. Many private insurance plans will pay for eye care for children.

After you have taken your child to the eye doctor, please make sure to inform your child's school or school nurse of the result of the eye exam.

## What should I do if my child's insurance plan does not pay for an eye exam and/or eyeglasses?

Contact Paulette Tattersall, Prevent Blindness Northeast Region  
[ptattersall@preventblindness.org](mailto:ptattersall@preventblindness.org)

## Where do I find more information about children's vision?

[www.childrensvisionmassachusetts.org](http://www.childrensvisionmassachusetts.org)  
[www.preventblindness.org](http://www.preventblindness.org)

