

WGOS: Eligibility for WGOS 1 Eye Examination



Gwasanaethau Offthalmig
Cyffredinol Cymru
Wales General
Ophthalmic Services

Eligibility (Patient is/has...)	Comments
Under 16	All patients under the age of 16 regardless of where they receive their schooling.
16, 17, or 18 and in full-time education	<p>Patients aged 16, 17 or 18 in full-time education at a recognised educational establishment are eligible for a WGOS 1 Eye Examination once they have joined an academic course.</p> <p>Students under the age of 19 and are between academic years or changing schools continue to be eligible during the holidays as do students under the age of 19 going to college or university who have an offer of a place at college or university to be taken up immediately after the long holiday, i.e., no gap year.</p> <p>Patients aged 16, 17 or 18 who are being electively home educated are for a WGOS 1 Eye Examination and, if necessary, optical vouchers for help towards the cost of glasses.</p> <p>Patients aged 16, 17 or 18 who are on a Welsh Government Traineeship with attendance of 21 hours or more a week are entitled to a WGOS 1 Eye Examination and if necessary, optical vouchers for help towards the cost of glasses.</p> <p>When completing the WGOS paperwork, optometrists and ophthalmic medical practitioners should tick the box for a patient being a full-time student aged 16, 17 or 18 and attend School/ College/University and annotate "home educated" or "Welsh Government Traineeship" accordingly.</p>
Under 18 who are care leaver or are in the care of a Local Authority	N/A.
60 or over	All patients who are aged 60 or over.

Registered as sight impaired / severely sight impaired	All patients who are registered as sight impaired / severely sight impaired.
Diabetic	<p>Patients diagnosed with diabetes are entitled to WGOS 1 Eye Examination.</p> <p>Patients aged 12 or over and have been diagnosed with diabetes should be part of a Diabetic retinopathy screening service. Unless they are currently under the HES for their diabetic eye care, the screening is completed by Diabetic Eye Screening Wales (DESW). If the patient is not receiving screening, you should bring this to the attention of the patient's GP, so that the patient may be included.</p>
Glaucoma	Patients diagnosed as having glaucoma regardless of whether they are under the care of an Ophthalmologist.
A family history of glaucoma	A patient who is aged 40 or over who is the parent, child or sibling of a person who has or had glaucoma.
Considered to be at risk of glaucoma	A patient considered by an ophthalmologist / glaucoma qualified practitioner to be predisposed to the development of glaucoma is also eligible for a WGOS 1 Eye Examination. However, this eligibility does not extend to their family members.
At risk of developing eye disease based on ethnicity	<p>Patients that are 40 years of age or over and self-certify as Asian or Black are eligible for a WGOS 1 Eye Examination on the basis that they are at much greater risk of glaucoma and diabetes at an earlier age and with more severe disease compared to other ethnicities.</p> <p>Patients that are under 40 years of age and self-certify as Asian or Black with additional risk factors associated with glaucoma or diabetes (e.g. Family History of glaucoma) are also eligible.</p>
Unilateral	Patients who are unilateral and would be eligible for registration as Sight Impaired if they lost vision in their 'good' eye.
Hearing impaired	Patients who can self-certify that even with aids they consider themselves as hearing impaired and they rely on their vision to assist communication e.g., lip reading, signing or written communication.
Retinitis pigmentosa	Patients who have been diagnosed as having retinitis pigmentosa by an Ophthalmologist.

<p>A Complex Prescription</p>	<p>A patient currently wearing complex lenses. If during the WGOS 1 Eye Examination it is found that their prescription is no longer considered 'complex', they will still be eligible for an WGOS 1 Eye Examination on this occasion, but they would not be automatically entitled to subsequent WGOS 1 Eye Examinations unless they are eligible for another reason.</p> <p>If the patient undergoing a private Sight Test is found to need a complex lens, a WGOS 1 Eye Examination can be claimed, providing that all additional elements (which would not ordinarily be included in a sight test) to comply with the regulations are completed.</p>
<p>A prisoner on leave from prison</p>	<p>A "prisoner" in this context means a person who is detained in a prison, including a young offender institution, but is, at the time of receiving any primary ophthalmic service, on leave from that prison. A prisoner may be allowed to leave prison for short periods towards the end of their sentence and extending eligibility for prisoners on leave is a means to initiate integration with the rest of open society, extending and democratising provisions wider members of the public are entitled to have.</p>
<p>An adult receiving one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Income Support. » Income-related Employment and Support Allowance. » Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance. » Pension Credit Guarantee Credit. » Universal Credit and meet the criteria. » HC2 (full help) or HC3 (partial help) certificate. » Valid NHS tax credit exemption certificate. 	<p>The following link is useful to determine whether a patient is entitled to a WGOS 1 Eye Examination and/or help towards the cost of an optical appliance.</p> <p>https://www.gov.wales/get-help-nhs-eye-care-costs</p>