



TRICARE® Vision Benefits

TRICARE coverage of routine eye examinations and other vision services

General vision coverage for TRICARE beneficiaries may include an eye examination and other specialized services to diagnose or treat a medical condition of the eye. These services are covered when provided in connection with the medical or surgical treatment of a covered illness or injury.

ROUTINE EYE EXAMINATIONS

Medically necessary eye examination coverage varies according to beneficiary category and program option. Referrals and prior authorizations may be required.

Active duty service members (ADSMs) enrolled in TRICARE Prime stateside or overseas must receive all vision care at military hospitals or clinics unless specifically referred by their primary care managers (PCMs) to civilian network providers, or to non-network providers if a network provider is not available. Overseas, ADSMs enrolled in TRICARE Overseas Program (TOP) Prime Remote may obtain periodic eye examinations from network providers without prior authorizations in order to maintain fitness-for-duty status.

Active duty family members (ADFMs) are entitled to one annual routine eye examination. ADFMs enrolled in TRICARE Prime may receive their annual routine eye examinations from network providers without referrals or prior authorizations. ADFMs covered by TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra may receive their annual eye examinations from any TRICARE-authorized provider (*network or non-network*).

For retired service members and their family members enrolled in TRICARE Prime, routine eye examinations from network providers are covered without referrals or prior authorizations once every two years.

Routine eye examinations are **not** covered for TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra retirees or their family members, except for eye examinations allowed under the well-child benefit.

Note: TRICARE Extra is not available overseas.

Well-child care is covered for beneficiaries from birth up to age 6. Eye and vision screenings given by primary care providers are covered during routine examinations at birth and at approximately six months of age. From age 3 up to age 6, ADFMs and children enrolled in TRICARE Reserve Select are covered for one routine eye examination per calendar year. Non-ADFM children are covered for one routine eye examination every two years.

Medically necessary eye examinations for diabetic patients of any age are not limited. One eye examination per year is recommended.

Note: TRICARE beneficiaries can also check with their local military hospitals and clinics to see if they provide optometry services and are accepting appointments for routine eye exams.

For more details on TRICARE's vision benefit, see the charts on the following page.

TRICARE Routine Eye-Examination Coverage (*for beneficiaries over age 6*)

Beneficiary Type	TRICARE Program Option	Routine Eye Examination Coverage	Provider Type
Active Duty Service Members	TRICARE Prime	As needed to maintain fitness-for-duty status	Military hospital or clinic, unless specifically referred to a civilian provider
	TRICARE Prime Remote (TPR)	As needed to maintain fitness-for-duty status	Network optometrist or ophthalmologist
Active Duty Family Members or TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) Members	TRICARE Prime or TPR	One routine eye examination per calendar year	Network optometrist or ophthalmologist
	TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra or TRS	One routine eye examination per calendar year	Any TRICARE-authorized optometrist or ophthalmologist (<i>network or non-network</i>)
Retirees, Their Families, and Others	TRICARE Prime	One routine eye examination every two years (<i>24 months</i>)	Network optometrist or ophthalmologist
	TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra, TRICARE Retired Reserve	None	Not applicable

TRICARE Eye-Examination Coverage under the Well-Child Benefit (*for under age 6*)

Beneficiary Type	TRICARE Program Option	Routine Eye Examination Coverage	Provider Type
Infants (<i>up to age 3</i>)	All programs	One routine eye and vision screening at birth and at 6 months	Primary care manager or physician
Active Duty Family Members (ADFM) or TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) Children (<i>age 3 up to age 6</i>)	TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Prime Remote	One routine eye examination per calendar year	Network optometrist or ophthalmologist
	TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra or TRS	One routine eye examination per calendar year	Any TRICARE-authorized optometrist or ophthalmologist (<i>network or non-network</i>)
Non-ADFM Children (<i>age 3 up to age 6</i>)	TRICARE Prime	One routine eye examination every two years (<i>24 months</i>)	Network optometrist or ophthalmologist
	TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra or TRICARE Retired Reserve	One routine eye examination every two years (<i>24 months</i>)	Any TRICARE-authorized optometrist or ophthalmologist (<i>network or non-network</i>)

LENSES AND EYEGLASSES

Except for ADSMs, lenses (*lenses implanted within the eye or contacts*) or eyeglasses are only cost-shared for the following conditions:

- Contact lenses for treatment of infantile glaucoma
- Corneal or scleral lenses for treatment of keratoconus
- Scleral lenses to retain moisture when normal tearing is not present or is inadequate
- Corneal or scleral lenses prescribed to reduce a corneal irregularity other than astigmatism
- Intraocular lenses, contact lenses, or eyeglasses to perform the function of the human lens lost as the result of intraocular surgery or ocular injury or congenital absence

Benefits are also specifically limited to one set of intraocular lenses necessary to restore vision. A set may also include a combination of intraocular lenses and eyeglasses when necessary to restore vision. If there is a prescription change related to the qualifying eye condition, a new set may be cost-shared. However, replacement lenses for those that are lost, have deteriorated, or have become unusable due to physical growth are not covered. Adjustments, cleanings, and repairs of eyeglasses are not covered.

For more information about TRICARE vision benefits, contact your regional contractor or TOP Regional Call Center. Special programs may exist at local military hospitals and clinics. Please contact your local military hospital or clinic for additional information.

FOR INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

<p> TRICARE North Region Health Net Federal Services, LLC 1-877-TRICARE (1-877-874-2273) www.hnfs.com</p>	<p> TRICARE South Region Humana Military, a division of Humana Government Business 1-800-444-5445 HumanaMilitary.com</p>	<p> TRICARE West Region UnitedHealthcare Military & Veterans 1-877-988-WEST (1-877-988-9378) www.uhcmilitarywest.com</p>
<p> TRICARE Overseas Program (TOP) Regional Call Center—Eurasia-Africa¹ +44-20-8762-8384 (<i>overseas</i>) 1-877-678-1207 (<i>stateside</i>) tricarelon@internationalsos.com</p>	<p> TOP Regional Call Center—Latin America and Canada¹ +1-215-942-8393 (<i>overseas</i>) 1-877-451-8659 (<i>stateside</i>) tricarephi@internationalsos.com</p>	<p> TOP Regional Call Centers—Pacific¹ Singapore: +65-6339-2676 (<i>overseas</i>) 1-877-678-1208 (<i>stateside</i>) sin.tricare@internationalsos.com Sydney: +61-2-9273-2710 (<i>overseas</i>) 1-877-678-1209 (<i>stateside</i>) sydricare@internationalsos.com</p>

1. For toll-free contact information, visit www.tricare-overseas.com.

An Important Note About TRICARE Program Information

At the time of publication, this information is current. It is important to remember that TRICARE policies and benefits are governed by public law and federal regulations. Changes to TRICARE programs are continually made as public law and/or federal regulations are amended. **Military hospital and clinic guidelines and policies may be different than those outlined in this publication.** For the most recent information, contact your TRICARE regional contractor or local military hospital or clinic. The TRICARE program meets the minimum essential coverage requirement under the Affordable Care Act.

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