

Please Help Us To Help You | Ophthalmic Charges

Send us the correct evidence that applies to you, so that we can confirm your entitlement promptly

You are entitled to help with the cost of your glasses if:	The evidence you must send is:	
You are aged under 16.	A copy of documentation with your date of birth on it, such as your NHS Medical Card, your passport, or your birth certificate.	
You are aged 16-18 and in full-time education.	Please send proof that you are a full-time student e.g., a copy of a letter from your school or college.	
If you qualify under one of the following categories:	The evidence you must send is:	Alternatives:
You are named on an HC2 certificate under the NHS Low Income Scheme.	A Copy of an HC2 certificate which covers the date we require.	If you cannot find your certificate you can contact the agency which issues the certificates on 0300 330 1343 to check your entitlement.
You receive or are included in your partner's award of Pension Credit Guaranteed Credit .	A copy of the page from your award letter showing your payment includes Guaranteed Credit , and confirmation that you are included in the award.	If you do not have any paperwork for the date we require, provided you are the claimant, and you are sure you receive Pension Credit Guarantee Credit , you can telephone the Pension Service Helpline on 0800 731 0469 for a copy of your award letter.
You receive or are included in an award of Universal Credit. To establish if your Universal Credit (Take Home Pay) is WITHIN the monthly income threshold, please visit our website https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/help-with-health-costs/help-with-health-costs-for-people-getting-universal-credit/ 2016 thresholds are: £435 - no or net earnings of this value or less or £935 - if you have a child and/or limited capability for work element and no or net earnings of this value or less. These thresholds are subject to change. Your optician can provide you with current thresholds.	If you qualify under one of these thresholds, then please send us a copy of your full Universal Credit monthly statement covering the dates you received your glasses, showing how your payment has been worked out. Log on to your Universal Credit online account. We will need to see your statement which shows your name, address, assessment period, allowance, deductions and totals. Please be advised your Take-home pay relates to the wages you and/or your partner receive from your paid employment. Not your Universal Credit award payment.	If you are unable to access your Universal Credit online account for any reason, then you will need to contact the Department for Work & Pensions and request a copy of your monthly statement showing your take-home pay for the period we are checking.

You receive or are included in your partner's award of Income-related Employment and Support Allowance .	A copy of your full award letter from your Jobcentre Plus showing you received Income- related Employment and Support Allowance on the date we require, or a copy of a letter showing that you are included in your partner's award on the date we require.	If you do not have any paperwork for the date we require, provided you are the claimant, and you are sure you receive Income-related Employment and Support Allowance , you can telephone your Jobcentre Plus Office or the Department for Work & Pensions and request a copy of your award letter.
You are entitled to limited help with the cost of your glasses if:	The evidence you must send is:	Alternatives:
You are named on a current HC3 certificate under the NHS Low Income Scheme.	A copy of a valid HC3 certificate with your name on it.	If you cannot find your certificate, you can contact the agency which issues the certificates on 0300 330 1343 to check your position.

You are not entitled to help with the cost of your glasses if:
You or your partner only receive Pension Credit Savings Credit .
You or your partner only receive New Style Jobseeker's Allowance .
You or your partner only receive Incapacity Benefit, Disability Living Allowance, Personal Independence Payment or Adult Disability Payment .
You or your partner only receive Contribution-based Employment and Support Allowance .