

OPTOMETRIC SERVICES PROGRAM

FOR WHOM IS THE PROGRAM INTENDED?

The Optometric Services Program is intended for:

- persons under 18 years of age;
- persons 65 years of age and over;
- persons 18 to 64 years of age who have been employment assistance (welfare) recipients for at least 12 consecutive months, and their dependents;
- persons 60 to 64 years of age who have received a spouse’s allowance under the *Old Age Security Act* for at least 12 consecutive months and who, without this allowance, would be entitled to employment assistance benefits;
- persons 18 to 64 years of age hospitalized to receive long-term care or persons accommodated in a health-care facility (the hospital or facility pays the cost of the optometric services);
- visually impaired persons of any age who are registered with an accredited centre¹ specializing in rehabilitation of the visually impaired.

1. These centres are listed on the other side of this pamphlet.

WHAT SERVICES ARE INSURED?

Generally speaking, insured services include eye examinations, the analysis of eye functions, the detection of oculo-visual diseases and the prescription of treatment.

More specifically, the following services are insured:

- examinations designed to detect an eye or vision defect and to monitor its evolution;
- specific examinations relating to subnormal vision, to aniseikonia and, in certain particular cases, to the wearing of contact lenses;
- orthoptic examinations for persons 16 years of age and under;
- colour vision tests, visual field examinations, eye motility tests, and light and dark adaptation tests performed with an adaptometer.

IMPORTANT

Persons under 18 years of age and persons 65 years of age and over are entitled to only one insured complete eye examination and only one insured extensive colour vision test per year. Employment assistance recipients 18 to 64 years of age are entitled to receive these services once every two years.

WHAT SERVICES ARE INSURED OUTSIDE QUÉBEC?

Optometric services insured in Québec are also insured throughout Canada and abroad. However, the amount reimbursed by the Régie never exceeds the amount the Régie would pay for the same services rendered in Québec. If you are planning a trip outside Québec, consult the Régie’s information pamphlet entitled *Health-Care Services Insured Outside Québec*.

HOW MAY I OBTAIN INSURED SERVICES?

To obtain insured services free of charge under the Optometric Services Program, you must be eligible for the program and must **present your Health Insurance Card. Remember that your card must be valid**, so be sure to check the expiry date. If you are unable to present a valid Health Insurance Card, you will have to pay the professional’s fees and then apply to the Régie for a reimbursement using a special form that the professional you consulted will fill out and give to you. **If you are an employment assistance recipient, you must also present your *carnet de réclamation (claim slip)*.**

Your Health Insurance Card is valid until the end of the month in which it expires.
It’s up to you to check the expiry date.

WHAT SERVICES ARE NOT INSURED?

The following services are not insured:

- the purchase, fitting, adjustment and replacement of eyeglasses or contact lenses;
- services rendered solely for cosmetic reasons;
- examinations necessary for the administration of justice or required by a third party;
- examinations of groups of persons, unless the optometrist performing the examinations obtains the Régie’s prior written authorization;
- examinations required by educational institutions, summer camps, associations or organizations;
- examinations undergone for the purpose of obtaining a driver’s licence,² passport, visa, insurance policy or employment, or required in the course of employment.

Remember...

If you change your address,
call us
and let us know!

2. Eye examinations undergone for the purpose of obtaining a licence to drive a commercial vehicle, a bus or minibus, an emergency vehicle or a taxi are insured services when provided for in a Québec law other than the *Act respecting collective agreement decrees*.

Accredited centres specializing in rehabilitation of the visually impaired

- Centre de réadaptation L'Émergent
835, boul. Joliet
Baie-Comeau (Québec) G5C 1P5
Tel. 418 589-2002
- Carrefour santé et services sociaux de Jonquière
2230, rue de l'hôpital
Jonquière (Québec) G7X 7X2
Tel. 418 541-1045
- Centre régional de réadaptation La Ressource
325, rue Laramée
Hull (Québec) J8Y 3A4
Tel. 819 777-6261
- Institut Nazareth et Louis-Braille
1111, rue Saint-Charles Ouest
Longueuil (Québec) J4K 5G4
Tel. 450 463-1710
1 800 361-7063
- Centre de réadaptation l'InterAction
800, chemin du Sanatorium
Mont-Joli (Québec) G5H 3L6
Tel. 418 775-8432
- Montreal Association for the Blind
7000, rue Sherbrooke Ouest
Montréal (Québec) H4B 1R3
Tel. 514 489-8201

- Institut de réadaptation en déficience physique de Québec (Site Louis-Hébert)
525, boulevard Hamel Est, aile J
Québec (Québec) G1M 2S8
Tel. 418 529-9141
- Centre de réadaptation Le Bouclier
784, rue Notre-Dame
Repentigny (Québec) J5Y 1B0
Tel. 450 581-3113
1 888 880-8240
- Centre de réadaptation La Maison
100, chemin Docteur-Lemay, P.O. Box 1055
Rouyn (Québec) J9X 5C8
Tel. 819 762-6592
- Centre de réadaptation Estrie
1930, rue King Ouest
Sherbrooke (Québec) J1J 2E2
Tel. 819 346-8411
- Centre de réadaptation InterVal
4100, rue Labadie, P.O. Box 1960
Trois-Rivières (Québec) G9A 5M6
Tel. 819 378-4083

The information in this pamphlet is neither exhaustive nor applicable in all cases, and does not have force of law.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

We invite you to visit our website.

www.ramq.gouv.qc.ca

You can also obtain information by telephone or at one of our offices.

- Québec**
1125, Grande Allée Ouest
418 646-4636
- Montréal**
425, boul. De Maisonneuve Ouest, 3rd floor
514 864-3411
- Elsewhere in Québec**
1 800 561-9749
- By TTD**
(telecommunication device for the deaf)
418 682-3939 (Québec)
1 800 361-3939 (elsewhere in Québec)

Our mailing address
Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec
PO Box 6600
Québec (Québec) G1K 7T3

Our office hours
Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays
and Fridays: from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Wednesdays: from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Outside the above hours, you can use the telephone numbers for our offices to access an automated telephone information system.

Ce document est aussi disponible en français.

Direction des communications
April 2006

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Moving?
Be sure to let us know.

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