

## How do I claim the spectacle subsidy?

All optometrists and ophthalmologists registered with Enable New Zealand have the required forms you will need to sign.

On your behalf, the optometrist or ophthalmologist will submit the request directly to Enable New Zealand.

Once Enable New Zealand has received your subsidy request, the approved subsidy will be paid directly to the optometrist or ophthalmologist. Anything over the threshold amount available will need to be paid directly by you to the optometrist or ophthalmologist.



## If I have further questions who can I contact?

If you have any questions about the spectacle subsidy, please contact Enable New Zealand on 0800 ENABLE (362 253) or [enable@enable.co.nz](mailto:enable@enable.co.nz).

Alternatively, for full details you can read the spectacle subsidy manual and clinical guidelines on the Disability Funding Information website [www.disabilityfunding.co.nz](http://www.disabilityfunding.co.nz)

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## CHILDREN'S SPECTACLE SUBSIDY



 **MINISTRY OF  
HEALTH**  
MANATŪ HAUORA

Enable New Zealand manages the children's spectacle subsidy on behalf of the Ministry of Health.

## Who can get the spectacle subsidy?

A child or young person who is 15 years of age or under, provided:

- the parent/guardian or child has a *valid* community services card, or
- the child has a *current* high use health card.

There are also clinical guidelines your child will need to meet. Your optometrist or ophthalmologist will discuss these guidelines with you during your appointment.

If your child does not meet the clinical guidelines, your optometrist or ophthalmologist may apply to Enable New Zealand for a review of your child's circumstances.



## The spectacle subsidy can be claimed for the following items:

- Eye examination
- Spectacles (frames and lenses)
- Eye patches, and/or
- Repairs.

## How much can I claim and what can I claim for?

The total subsidy amount available each year for your child until they turn 16 years old is **\$287.50 including GST**.

Of the **\$287.50**, a maximum of **\$138.00** including GST can be used toward frames. Additional funding of **\$51.11** including GST is available if your child requires adult size frames.

A higher level subsidy is also available for children and young people with more complex vision needs. More complex vision needs means that the examining ophthalmologist has confirmed that the child or young person has rapidly progressing myopia and requires assessment six monthly, and possible six monthly modification to spectacles, or has amblyopia or strabismus and requires more extensive intervention.

Your child's subsidy **year** will start from the date that the first examination appointment occurred with an optometrist or an ophthalmologist. This date will become your child's **anniversary date**.

It is important to note if you do not use the full entitlement available, the remaining balance is not able to be accumulated for the following year. The spectacle subsidy cannot be claimed in advance.

