

1 Department of Human Services

2

3 Adopted Permanent Rules Governing Eyeglass Services Under

4 Medical Assistance

5

6 Rules as Adopted

7 9505.0277 EYEGLASS SERVICES.

8 Subpart 1. Definitions. The following terms used in this
9 part have the meanings given them.

10 A. "Comprehensive vision examination" means a
11 complete evaluation of the visual system.

12 B. "Dispensing services" means the technical services
13 necessary for the design, fitting, and maintenance of eyeglasses
14 as prescribed by an optometrist or ophthalmologist.

15 C. "Eyeglass services" means comprehensive and
16 intermediate vision examinations provided by and within the
17 scope of practice of a provider who is an optometrist or
18 ophthalmologist and the eyeglasses provided by an optician,
19 optometrist, or ophthalmologist.

20 D. "Eyeglasses" means a pair of lenses mounted in a
21 frame and other aids to vision prescribed by an optometrist or
22 ophthalmologist.

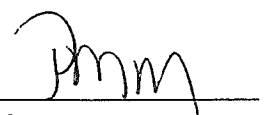
23 E. "Intermediate vision examination" means an
24 evaluation of a specific visual problem.

25 F. "Medically necessary eyeglasses" means that:

26 (1) for initial eyeglasses, there is a correction
27 of .50 diopters or greater in either sphere or cylinder power in
28 either eye; or

29 (2) for ~~replacement~~ a change in eyeglasses, there
30 is a change in correction of .50 diopters or greater in either
31 sphere or cylinder power in either eye, or a shift in axis of
32 greater than ten degrees in either eye. For purposes of this
33 item, "diopter" means the unit of refracting power of the lens.

34 G. "Ophthalmologist" means a physician who has
35 academic training in ophthalmology beyond the requirements for



1 licensure under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 147, and experience
2 in the treatment and diagnosis of diseases of the eye.

3 H. "Optician" means a supplier of eyeglasses to a
4 recipient as prescribed by the recipient's optometrist or
5 ophthalmologist.

6 I. "Optometrist" means a person licensed under
7 Minnesota Statutes, sections 148.52 to 148.62.

8 Subp. 2. Covered eyeglass services. ~~To-be-eligible-for~~
9 ~~medical-assistance-payment,~~ The eyeglass services must-meet-the
10 requirements-of in items A to E E are eligible for medical
11 assistance payment.

12 A. ~~One Comprehensive vision examination-in-a-24-month~~
13 period examinations.

14 B. ~~One Intermediate vision examination-in-a-12-month~~
15 period examinations.

16 C. ~~One~~ An initial pair of medically necessary
17 eyeglasses ~~in-a-24-month-period-except-that-a-recipient-shall~~
18 receive.

19 ~~{1}-one~~ D. A pair of eyeglasses that are an identical
20 replacement within-the-24-month-period-if-the of a pair of
21 eyeglasses were that was misplaced, stolen, or irreparably
22 damaged, ~~or.~~

23 ~~{2}~~ E. A new pair of eyeglasses due to a change in
24 the recipient's head size, a change in vision after a
25 comprehensive or intermediate vision examination shows that a
26 change in eyeglasses is medically necessary, or an allergic
27 reaction to the eyeglass frame material. For purposes of this
28 ~~item~~ part, "change in eyeglasses" means a change in prescription.

29 Subp. 3. Excluded services. The following eyeglass
30 services are not eligible for payment under the medical
31 assistance program.

32 A. Services provided for cosmetic reasons. Examples
33 are:

34 (1) contact lenses prescribed for reasons other
35 than aphakia, keratoconus, aniseikonia, marked acuity
36 improvement over correction with eyeglasses, or therapeutic

1 application; and

2 (2) replacement of lenses or frames due to the
3 recipient's personal preference for a change of style or color.

4 B. Dispensing services related to noncovered services.

5 C. Fashion tints, ~~photo-chromatic-lenses,~~ and
6 polarized lenses, transition-lenses, and sunglasses unless
7 medically necessary.

8 D. Protective coating for plastic lenses.

9 E. Edge and antireflective coating of lenses.

10 F. Industrial or sport eyeglasses unless they are the
11 recipient's only pair and are necessary for vision correction.

12 G. Eyeglasses, lenses, or frames that are not
13 medically necessary.

14 H. Invisible bifocals or progressive bifocals.

15 I. An eyeglass service for which a required prior
16 authorization was not obtained.

17 J. Replacement of lenses or frames due to the
18 provider's error in prescribing, frame selection, or
19 measurement. The provider making the error is responsible for
20 bearing the cost of correcting the error.

21 K. Services or materials that are determined to be
22 experimental or nonclinically proven by prevailing community
23 standards or customary practice.

24 L. Repair of eyeglasses during the warranty period if
25 the repair is covered by warranty.

26 M. Purchase of eyeglasses or lenses not covered by a
27 contract obtained through the competitive bidding process under
28 part 9505.0200.

29 N. Backup eyeglasses.

30 O. Photochromatic lenses except for a person who has
31 a diagnosis of albinism, achromatopsia, aniridia, blue cone
32 monochromatism, cystinosis, or retinitis pigmentosa, or any
33 other condition for which such lenses are medically necessary.

34 P. Transition lenses.

35 REPEALER. Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0405, is repealed.