



Loveland Lions Club

# Eyeglasses Assistance Program

## Requirements to Qualify

- ) Must be a Loveland resident for 1-year minimum
- ) Must use Lions application form to apply
- ) Applicant must be low income and in need of assistance
- ) If approved, applicant must use vendor designated by Lions Club

## Application Instructions

- 1) Each person needing assistance must be submitted on a separate application.
- 2) Print clearly and ensure writing is legible. Application is available in Word format and may be completed on a computer.
- 3) Complete each item or mark as N/A (not applicable) if appropriate.
- 4) Use back of application if additional space is needed OR attach additional page(s) as needed.
- 5) Call Kay at 622-9799 if you have a question about competing application.
- 6) Application must be signed by the applicant to be considered.
- 7) Completed application must be sent by mail to: **LOVELAND LIONS, P.O. BOX 928, LOVELAND, CO 80539**

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Question: What is the Eye Glasses Assistance Program?**

In 1925, Helen Keller challenged Lions to become "*knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness.*" And we accepted. Today, sight programs remain one of our defining causes.

The Loveland Lions Club helps with **EYE GLASSES and/or EYE EXAMs** as one of several sight programs it supports.

**Question: The program material states the Eye Glasses Assistance Program is for "low income and in need of assistance". What does that mean?**

Answer: The Eye Sight Committee looks at each application on a case by case basis. The information provided on the completed application will be used by the committee in making a determination. If a person believes they are unable to afford glasses and lacks resources to secure them, they are strongly encouraged to apply.

**Question: Where can someone needing help get an application?**

Answer: Applications are available from the Chilson Senior Center, The Community Kitchen, Disabled Resources Service Services, The House of Neighborly Service, Salvation Army, Loveland Housing Authority, Northern Colorado Health Alliance, Workforce Center and School Nurses in the Thompson School District.

**Question: Is this program limited to Loveland residents?**

Answer: Yes the program is for residents of this local area. People needing help from other communities should check with their local Lions Club to see what assistance is available. Loveland Lions will assist eligible candidates who live both in and near to Loveland city limits.

**Question: If a person has a question while completing the application is there someone they can call?**

Answer: Kay (622-9799) is the chair of the Eye Sight Committee and will be happy to help with questions.

**Question: What happens once a person mails the application to the Lions?**

Answer: The Lions Post Office Box is checked frequently for applications. Once the application is reviewed for completeness, readability and explanation of need it will be presented to the Lions Eyeglass Assistance Committee the first Wednesday of the month. The committee will determine if the applicant will be assisted.

If there are questions the Lions will contact the applicant to request additional necessary information. That is one of the reasons it is very important that good contact information is listed.

The decision is shared with the applicant by letter. It is vital that a valid address be provided. If an address changes after the application is submitted, please call the committee chair (970/622-9799). If the application is approved, the letter will provide next steps to securing the eye exam &/or glasses.

**Question: The documentation states the glasses must be fitted by a specific eye doctor; Why is that?**

Answer: They are the contracted provider for this program. The provider cannot provide service though, until the application has been approved by the Eye Sight Committee.

**Additional sight related programs supported by the Loveland Lions include:**

**Eye Glass recycling—Eyeglass recycling is one of the Lions most popular activities.**

Refractive errors can be easily corrected with eyeglasses, yet millions in developing nations lack access to basic eye care services. Lions have recognized the urgent need for corrective lenses and continue to lend their support to the Lions Recycle for Sight Program. The Loveland Lions collect and recycle approximately 11,000 pair of glasses each year. Collection boxes are located in over 30 sites throughout Loveland. These include the Golden Corral, Chilson Senior Center, Walmart and Sam's Club, non-profit organizations, eye care providers, schools and churches.

**KidSight—**The Loveland Lions Club conducts vision screening in each of the elementary schools of the Thompson School District as well as most of the pre-school and private schools in the area. Approximately 1,200 children are screened each year.

**Eye Sight Health, Support for the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Bank, Support for other vision projects and organizations in our area.**

### **Who are the Lions?**

Lions are an international network of 1.4 million men and women dedicated to making a difference locally and globally.

### **What do Lions do?**

Lions meet the needs of our communities and the world, ranging from assisting the visually impaired and working with local youth to medical missions and disaster relief.

### **How are Lions relevant to today's world?**

Since 1917, Lions have met the needs in their communities and continued to improve the areas in which they live. As long as there are needs around the world, we will work to meet those needs.

### **Are there women Lions?**

Yes. Women are the single fastest growing segment of Lions.

### **As in other community organizations, is the membership of Lions declining?**

No. Lions membership is increasing. Programs such as Family Clubs, Leo Clubs, Campus Lions Clubs and New Century Lions Clubs, are helping us adapt to meet the growing needs of the world around us.

### **I would like to volunteer in my community but why should I do so as a Lion?**

Lions meet the needs of those in their own communities as well as around the world and we have fun doing it. Working together locally and internationally, the worldwide network of Lions has vastly more resources and is able to accomplish much more than individuals and small groups working alone.

### **How do I become a Lion?**

If you are interested in becoming a Lion, you are welcome to attend any of our meetings. We meet at noon at the Golden Corral every Wednesday except the 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. Please call Lion Gary Sampson (membership chairman) at (970) 663-9392 or e-mail him at [gary@sampsong.net](mailto:gary@sampsong.net) for more information.

The Loveland Lions Club web address is <http://www.lovelandlionsclubs.org/about.html>.