

# HELP WITH HEALTH COSTS

Are you entitled to claim?



Glasses

The majority of patients pay for their NHS ophthalmic treatment so if you are claiming help with health costs, it is your responsibility to check that you are entitled before you declare that you do not have to pay. Routine checks are carried out by the Business Services Organisation. If you claim free treatment that you are not entitled to, you could face penalty charges of up to £150, in addition to the original treatment charge. It is therefore in your best interest to claim correctly.

## Who is entitled?

You are entitled to free or reduced cost treatment if you :

✓ are included in an award for Income Support	✓ are named on a valid HC2 Certificate
✓ are included in an award for <b>Income-related</b> Employment and Support Allowance	✓ are named on a <b>valid</b> HC3 Certificate (offering partial assistance with charges)
✓ are included in an award for <b>Income-based</b> Jobseeker's Allowance	✓ are under 16 years of age
✓ are included in an award for Pension Credit <b>Guarantee Credit</b>	✓ are aged 16, 17 or 18 and in <b>full time</b> education
✓ are entitled to or named on a <b>valid</b> NHS Tax Credit Exemption Certificate	✓ have been prescribed complex lenses

Not all benefits entitle you to free treatment. You are not entitled to claim help with health costs if you only receive, or are included in, an award of:

✗ Contribution-based Employment and Support Allowance	✗ Incapacity Benefit
✗ Contribution-based Jobseeker's Allowance	✗ Carers Allowance
✗ Pension Credit <b>Savings Credit</b>	✗ Personal Independence Payment (PIP)
✗ Disability Living Allowance	✗ Housing Benefit
✗ Universal Credit (patients <b>must</b> have a valid HC2 certificate)	

## Further Information

If you are still unsure if you qualify for help with health costs please contact :



the HSC Patient Charges Advice Line  
**0800 5878 982**



or go online at  
[www.probityservices.hscni.net](http://www.probityservices.hscni.net)

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✓	are included in an award for Income Support	✓	are under 16 years of age
✓	are included in an award for <b>Income-related</b> Employment and Support Allowance	✓	are aged 16, 17 or 18 and in <b>full time</b> education
✓	are included in an award for <b>Income-based</b> Jobseeker's Allowance	✓	are aged 60 years or over
✓	are included in an award for Pension Credit <b>Guarantee Credit</b>	✓	are diagnosed diabetic
✓	are entitled to or named on a <b>valid</b> NHS Tax Credit <b>Exemption Certificate</b>	✓	are diagnosed as having glaucoma
✓	are named on a <b>valid</b> HC2 Certificate	✓	are aged 40 or over and have a parent, brother, sister, son or daughter with glaucoma
✓	are named on a <b>valid</b> HC3 Certificate (offering partial assistance with charges)	✓	are registered blind or partially sighted
		✓	have been prescribed complex lenses

Not all benefits entitle you to free treatment. You are not entitled to claim help with health costs if you only receive, or are included in, an award of :

✗	Contribution-based Employment and Support Allowance	✗	Incapacity Benefit
✗	Contribution-based Jobseeker's Allowance	✗	Carers Allowance
✗	Pension Credit <b>Savings Credit</b>	✗	Personal Independence Payment (PIP)
✗	Disability Living Allowance	✗	Housing Benefit
✗	Universal Credit (patients <b>must</b> have a valid HC2 certificate)		