

Finding an Eye Care Professional

The National Eye Institute does not provide referrals or recommend specific eye care professionals. However, the following suggestions and resources may help you find an eye care professional.

You can:

- Ask family members and friends about eye care professionals they use.
- Ask your family doctor for the name of a local eye care professional.
- Contact your insurance company or health plan to learn whether it has a list of eye care professionals that are covered under your plan.
- Call the department of ophthalmology or optometry at a nearby hospital or university medical center.
- Contact a state or county association of ophthalmologists or optometrists. These groups, usually called academies or societies, may have lists of eye care professionals with specific information on specialty and experience.

The reference specialist at your local library can help you identify sources for finding health care professionals. Here is an example:

- Each summer the magazine *U.S. News and World Report* features an article rating hospitals in the United States.

Website: <http://health.usnews.com/best-hospitals>

For More Information

- **The American Academy of Ophthalmology** and EyeSmart host *Find an Eye M.D.*, an online listing of member ophthalmologists in the United States and abroad.

Website: <https://secure.aao.org/aao/find-ophthalmologist>

- **The American Board of Ophthalmology** hosts *Verify a Physician*, an online portal to verify if an ophthalmologist is board certified.

Website: <http://abop.org/verify-a-physician/>

- **The American Academy of Optometry** hosts the *Fellow Directory*, a searchable online directory of member optometrists in the United States and abroad.

Website: www.aaopt.org/users/membership/memberdirectory

- **The American Board of Optometry** hosts *Optometrist Search*, a searchable online database of board certified optometrists.

Website: <http://americanboardofoptometry.org/optometrist-search/>

- **The American Optometric Association** hosts *Find a Doctor*, a searchable online listing of member optometrists.

Website: <http://www.aoa.org/doctor-locator-search?tab=basic&sso=y>

- **The American Medical Association** hosts *DoctorFinder*, a database with basic professional information on licensed physicians in the United States and its territories. You can choose to only search ophthalmologists.

Website: <https://apps.ama-assn.org/doctorfinder/recaptcha.jsp>

- **The International Society of Refractive Surgery** hosts *Find a Refractive Surgeon*, a searchable online listing of surgeons around the world who do refractive surgeries.

Website: <https://secure.aao.org/aao/find-a-refractive-surgeon>

- **American Glaucoma Society** hosts *Find an AGS Doctor*, a searchable database of its members –ophthalmologists who specialize in treating glaucoma.

Website: <https://aaosso.americanglaucomasociety.net/ags/Find-An-AGS-Doctor>

The National Eye Institute (NEI) is part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and is the federal government's lead agency for vision research that leads to sight-saving treatments and plays a key role in reducing visual impairment and blindness.



National Eye Institute

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