

## 2024 NOSA Scholarship Application

**Deadline: May 31, 2024**

National Vision, Inc. is one of the largest optical retailers in the United States, operating more than 1,100 locations in 38 states and Puerto Rico. With a mission of helping people by making quality eye care and eyewear more affordable and accessible, the company operates four retail brands: America's Best Contacts & Eyeglasses, Eyeglass World, Vista Optical inside Fred Meyer and Vista Optical on select military bases.

National Vision has established a partnership with the National Optometric Association (NOA) to provide scholarships to the members of the National Optometric Student Association (NOSA). The mission of the NOA, "advancing the visual health of minority populations," is parallel with our community service goals. Access to care is essential to all. NOA community service projects and NOSA screenings enhance vision care services in minority communities, which are often underserved. Through this scholarship, we hope to encourage students to continue their work in primary care and to promote its importance in today's environment.

### **Essay Topic:**

#### **Increasing Access to Eye Care Amid Economic Challenges**

*What role do optometrists play in ensuring access to eye care as Americans face economic uncertainty?*

Inflation and rising costs seem to be affecting every aspect of Americans' lives. If past trends are any indication, these economic pressures could cause some people to forgo preventative care to save on health care costs. As a result, the financial climate poses a risk to the nation's eye health. Skipping annual exams could cause conditions affecting the eyes and overall health to go undetected. As people everywhere grapple with financial stressors, we want to hear your take on how optometrists can aid in making quality eye care and eyewear more affordable and accessible—especially for underserved communities who may feel the weight of financial strains more than others.

### **THE ASK:**

1. Discuss the importance of routine eye care, particularly in underserved communities where many are disproportionately affected by certain eye conditions and disease.
2. Outline the financial barriers that can prevent individuals from underserved communities from receiving eye care. Please cite relevant research as applicable.
3. Explain how you, as a future Doctor of Optometry, can help provide accessible avenues for receiving eye care and educate the public on the importance of prioritizing eye care.
4. Elaborate on any support you or your optometrist peers could benefit from to make a positive impact in this area.
5. If you have done any clinical work that demonstrates putting these learnings into action already, consider sharing a case study. If you include a photo, keep HIPAA in mind.

### **Applicant Criteria:**

1. Must be an active NOSA member
2. Must be a student or graduate in good standing with an optometry school in the United States or Puerto Rico
3. Must be a student in one of the following classes: 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027
4. Must attend the convention awards ceremony in 2024



**DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY**  
NETWORK

**Application Requirements:**

1. Submit a 500-word essay or a short video (max. length: 5 minutes) on the topic above
2. Submit a completed application (on page 3 of this document)
3. Submit a 1-page resume highlighting community service and involvement in optometric organizations

**Three Scholarships will be awarded:**

First Place:	\$4,000
Second Place:	\$2,000
Third Place:	\$1,000

**Application Deadline: May 31, 2024**

**Send all completed items by email to:**

Carly Schenck – Director, Communications  
National Vision, Inc.

[Carly.Schenck@nationalvision.com](mailto:Carly.Schenck@nationalvision.com)



## 2024 NOSA Grant Application

1. Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
LAST NAME FIRST NAME MIDDLE INITIAL

2. Permanent Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS (SECOND LINE)

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY STATE ZIP CODE

\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNTRY

3. Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Name of Optometry School: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Graduation Year: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Date to enter residency and/or the workforce: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Submit a one-page resume along with this application to [carly.schenck@nationalvision.com](mailto:carly.schenck@nationalvision.com)