

Screening Skills: Distance Vision

Purpose: To screen for the clearness of vision when looking in the distance; to detect myopia (nearsightedness), amblyopia, and astigmatism	
Equipment: Eye Chart, occluder, place marker for 10 feet (or appropriate distance)	
Who is Screened Yearly: All students in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7 th or 8th, and 9 th or 10 th grades. Should also screen students under age 9 who are new to the district, and any referrals from parents, teachers or staff.	
Skill Steps	Notes
Screening Set Up	
Ambient light, maximum natural light, low glare	Tumbling E, Snellen, Allen Pictures, Lighthouse, Sailboat, and Hand charts are no longer acceptable charts for screening.
Eye chart free of yellowing and discoloration	
Appropriate recommended eye chart for age <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sloan: 1st grade and older • LEA/HOTV: 3yrs – 5yrs or Developmental/Cognitive Delays • Sloan Numbers: English Language Learners 	
Placement of chart at student eye level	
Place marker for 10 Feet (or appropriate distance)	
Procedure	
Ask student about glasses/contacts - keep glasses on if wears glasses full time.	See Guidelines for techniques for Pre-K and kindergarten students or students with special needs.
Position student with <u>arches</u> on the line.	
Give student age appropriate directions.	
Don't allow student to squint, peek, lean forward.	
Must identify the MAJORITY of optotypes to pass the critical line <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If they pass the critical line, STOP, record as pass for critical line. • If they fail the critical line--rescreen either on the same day or another day. • Re-screening should occur within 30 working days. 	Do not isolate individual optotypes. Only point briefly to optotypes.
Pass Criteria for Majority of Optotypes on Critical Line	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 years: 20/50 Pass • 4 - 5 years: 20/40 Pass • Grades 1 and above: 20/30 or 20/32 Pass 	
Referral Criteria	
Recommended that Students Receive an Evaluation by an Eye Care Professional <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student cannot pass the screening at the critical line • Inconclusive results • Student, parent, teacher, other school staff has concerns regarding vision • Student has associated health issues that may impact vision (e.g. cerebral palsy, down syndrome, autism, history of prematurity, low birth weight, developmental/cognitive delays) • Unusual eye appearance • Academic concerns • Concerns identified on Symptoms Questionnaire 	<p><u>Regardless</u> if student passes the critical line, a referral is recommended if other concerns exist.</p> <p>May consider bypassing screening and refer for evaluation by eye care professional for listed concerns.</p>

Helpful Tips:

- Explain the process to the student:
- Student may point to a training card to match the optotypes to identify what is seen on the chart.
- Demonstrate how to use the occluder. Care should be taken so as not to press on the student's eye when occluding.
- If the student needs help understanding, test from the top of the chart down, if needed. Otherwise, begin with the critical line.
- Remind students not to squint during the test.
- Present optotypes in reverse or inconsistent order between students.
- Familiarize younger students with the optotypes prior to the screening