Parents: Medicaid Eyeglasses and Vision Services for Children and Teens

Where can I get an eye exam and eyewear for my child?

Vision services are provided through the **Texas Health Steps Program.** (This is also known as EPSDT.)

Is my child eligible?

All children on Medicaid under the age of 21 are eligible for vision services.

What benefits would my child receive?

- ♣ A yearly eye exam by an Optometrist or an Opthalmologist (doctor)
- Lyewear that is found to be needed to correct a vision problem medically necessary.
 - o Eyewear includes eyeglasses (lenses and frames), contact lenses, and special lenses needed after cataract surgery
- Lyeglasses or contact lenses are provided once every 24 months (2 years), unless an eye prescription changes or eyewear is lost or destroyed
- Lyewear and eye exams for children ages 6 months to 21 years are given at no cost to the recipient.
- ♣ Medicaid does cover eyeglass repairs, or replacement when eyewear is lost or destroyed

Where do I take my child for an eye exam or eyewear?

- ♣ Any Optometrist or an Opthalmologist (doctor) who accepts Medicaid can do an exam.
- ♣ Many businesses that sell eyewear will accept Medicaid, but the choice of frames covered may be limited. If you want other frames, you can pay the price difference from your own money.

Who do I call if I need help finding a provider?

Texas Health Steps
1-877-THSTEPS (1-877-847-8377)
Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-7 p.m.

This information sheet has been prepared by the Houston/Harris County Covering Kids and Families Access Initiative. To learn more about the Initiative, please call the Children's Defense Fund of Texas at 713-664-4080. **Rev. 8/2005.**