VISION SCREENINGS:

When to Refer a Patient



ALL CHILDREN SEE

Age	Tests	When to Refer
Newborn to 12 months	 Ocular history Vision assessment External inspection of the eyes and lids Ocular motility assessment Pupil examination Red reflex examination 	 Refer infants who do not track well after 3 months of age Refer infants with abnormal red reflex or history of retinoblastoma in a parent or sibling
12 to 36 months	 Ocular history Vision assessment External inspection of the eyes and lids Ocular motility assessment Pupil examination Red reflex examination Visual acuity testing (preferred) or photoscreening Ophthalmoscopy 	 Refer infants with strabismus Refer infants with chronic tearing or discharge Refer children who fail photoscreening
36 months to 5 years		 Refer children who fail photoscreening Visual acuity thresholds: Ages 36–47 months: Must identify majority on 20/50 line Ages 48–59 months: Must identify majority on 20/40 line
5 years and older*		 Refer children who cannot read at least 20/32 with either eye (must identify majority on 20/32 line) Refer children not reading at grade level

*Repeat screening every 1–2 years after age 5

Know a child who may need a referral?

Visit our website at https://allchildrensee.org/patient/ to learn more about the All Children See (ACS) program.

All Children See is a program that connects children who have failed a vision screening or show signs of other eye conditions with qualified ophthalmologists for free, comprehensive eye exams.





About The Children's Eye Foundation of AAPOS

The Children's Eye Foundation of the American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus envisions an end to preventable vision loss and an improved quality of life for visually impaired children worldwide. Founded in 1970, CEF supports four programs to help fulfill that mission: All Children See, Global Education & Training, Stop Infant Blindness in Africa and Vision Through Music.

About The All Children See Program

All Children See (ACS) is a public service program that matches patients with qualified pediatric ophthalmologists who provide free, comprehensive eye exams to children who have failed a vision screening or have other concerning eye conditions.

Additional Resources

We offer a variety of free resources and informational materials to help connect parents and families with the resources they need. Scan the QR Code to get started!

